

Five College

Learning In Retirement



Crescent, Martin Bridge - www.thebridgebrothers.com

2022 FALL PROGRAMS

ABOUT US

History

The Learning in Retirement movement began some thirty-five years ago at the New School for Social Research in New York City. Now generally called “Life-Long Learning Institutes” or LLIs, such organizations are blossoming around the country. 5CLIR is now one of the more established of the many LLIs around the country and one of the more autonomous.

Founded in 1988-1989, Five College Learning in Retirement (5CLIR) serves the Pioneer Valley of Western Massachusetts. It is sponsored by Five Colleges, Incorporated, a consortium formed by Amherst College, Hampshire College, Mount Holyoke College, Smith College, and the University of Massachusetts at Amherst.

Who are Our Members?

Our members are a diverse group of intellectually curious individuals who want to pursue new fields of interest or to revisit interests too long neglected. We are characterized by a willingness to share the knowledge and insights we have gained over lifetimes variously experienced.

Volunteer standing and ad hoc committees are responsible for all programs and activities under the direction of an elected Council and Officers.

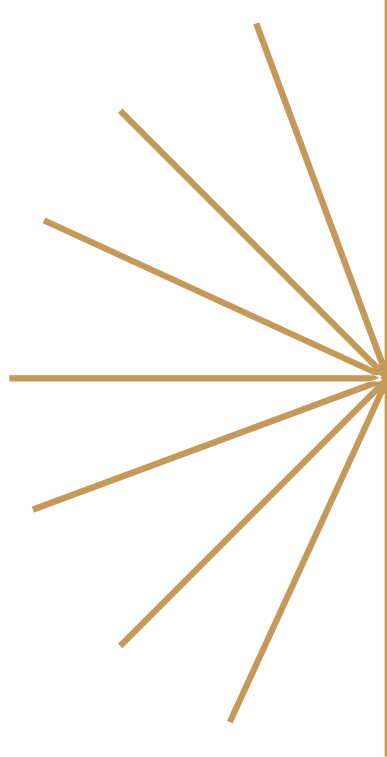
The Programs

Peer-led seminars and workshops are the core activities of Five College Learning in Retirement and are designed to engage the active learner. Each spring and fall, 20 to 25 peer-learning seminars and workshops are offered. These classes are coordinated by members and are different every session. In addition, a few short seminars may be offered during the summer.

Between the spring and fall sessions, we also coordinate a number of summer and winter programs for members. These extracurricular activities present opportunities to share activities and interests with other members.

In addition to seminars, workshops and programs for members, we sponsor some programs open to the public. These include an annual series called Great Decisions, a Foreign Policy Association program, which provides a forum to discuss pressing foreign policy issues with national experts, as well as occasional special programs.

TABLE OF CONTENTS



04

Greetings from the
Curriculum Committee

05

Membership in Five College
Learning in Retirement

06

Registration Details

33

Committees

08

Instructions

36

Interest Groups

09

New Writing to Remember
Instructions

10

Seminar Schedule

11-32

Seminar Descriptions

GREETINGS FROM THE CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

The Curriculum Committee of Five College Learning in Retirement is delighted to present this catalog of programs and seminars for the Fall 2022 semester. Once again, we extend our thanks to those who have so generously shared their interests and energy to create a wide range of seminars and workshops. You will be able to meet these moderators and co-moderators at the online Preview on Sunday, May 1, at 2:15 PM. In addition, many moderators have posted additional information about their seminars and workshops at 5clir.org/2022-fall-seminars/.

We are hopeful that some of the fall seminars will be able to meet in person. The seminar and workshop offerings in this catalog are approximately evenly split between online and in-person offerings.

The 5CLIR Council recently approved some changes to the way that participants are selected for the popular Writing to Remember (WTR) seminars. For at least the next two years, participants in each WTR section will be given an opportunity to enroll in the same section for the following semester ahead of the lottery. The remaining slots, if any, will be filled by lottery. Since these three seminars have been oversubscribed in recent semesters, a fourth section might be formed within this two-year trial period. For the Fall 2022 semester, there is a regular seminar (22F-WAS) that is similar in spirit to WTR.

Although each seminar and workshop has its own approach to engaging in active peer-led learning, all participants will be involved in sharing information and ideas and will join others in conversation. The Handbooks for Participants and Moderators, found at 5clir.org/5clir-handbooks/, contain information, suggestions, and guidance to enhance your active learning experience. Updated versions should be posted there by the end of June, so be sure to check back during the summer!

Members of the Curriculum Committee - Term Ends

Kathy Campbell, co-chair - June 30, 2022

Susan Beer, co-chair - June 30, 2023

Jim Averill - June 30, 2022

Elly Rumelt - June 30, 2022

Gene Fisher - June 30, 2022

Janet Nichols - June 30, 2022

Lise Armstrong - June 30, 2023

Hardy Ballantine - June 30, 2023

Tom Jones - June 30, 2023

Nancy Coiner - June 30, 2024

Jake Greenberg - June 30, 2024

Darcy Johnson - June 30, 2024

Stephanie Levin - June 30, 2024

Bobbie Reitt - June 30, 2024

MEMBERSHIP IN FIVE COLLEGE LEARNING IN RETIREMENT

- Our annual membership year runs from July 1st through June 30th.
- You must join or renew your LIR membership for the 2022-2023 year prior to the start of any program or seminar beginning after July 1st for which you enroll.
- You may join at any time during the year, but fees are not pro-rated.
- NOTE: Dues reduction has been continued through the 2022-2023 Membership Year by 20% in consideration that most of our programs are remaining online, via Zoom.

TO JOIN OR RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

Online:

Go to 5clir.org/member-application. Paypal is a secure way to pay online using your credit card.

By Mail:

Complete the online membership form as above, and on the second page complete the pay-by-check section.

Alternatively, you may download the printable form linked at 5clir.org/member-application. Make your check payable to 'Five Colleges, Inc' and mail together with the print form if used, to:

Office Manager
Smith College Campus
18 Henshaw Ave, C2, Suite 101
Northampton, MA 01063

TYPES OF MEMBERSHIPS

- Full membership.
- Associate Membership for former Full Members who wish to participate in Winter/Summer and Special Programs, but not in seminars/ workshops.
- Half-year membership, an option for new members only.

COSTS OF MEMBERSHIP

- \$220 - Full membership - June 1 to July 30
- \$110 - Associate Membership - June 1 to July 30
- \$110 - Half-year membership - Single Semester only

LIR Members over the years have generously contributed small-dollar donations to a **Membership Assistance Fund**. If you are concerned about the financial burden of the membership fee, please contact the Office Manager about scholarships options. Scholarship information is strictly confidential.

SEMINAR REGISTRATION OVERVIEW

REGISTRATION INSTRUCTIONS

- Registration for Fall 2022 courses opens on Monday, May 2, 2022.
- Registrations can be made online or by mail, not by phone.
- Membership dues must be current prior to the start of programs and seminars for which you register.
- Additional information about membership is at 5clir.org/memberships-and-dues.

ENROLLMENT PROCESS

- All registrations received by the office by Monday, May 23, 2022, will be included in the first round of seminar assignments.
- Oversubscribed seminars will be filled by random lottery of all registrations received by the deadline.
- Those not assigned to as many seminars/workshops as requested will be added to waitlists.
- Registration notifications will be sent on or about June 3, 2022.
- Registrations received after the lottery will be added as space is available in requested seminars/workshops, or added to waitlists.
- Wait-listed individuals will be notified when a space becomes available.

CHANGES AND CANCELLATIONS

- Changes to seminar assignments can be made by the office only.
- In the event of low enrollment, a seminar may be cancelled by the Curriculum Committee, in consultation with the moderator.

ABSENCE

- Members who are aware that they must miss two or more sessions of a seminar or workshop should check with the moderators before enrolling to determine whether that will be acceptable.

WITHDRAWALS

- Withdrawal notification should be communicated to both the moderator and the office.
- Withdrawals should be made as soon as possible, so the space can be made available to another member, and to ensure that the moderator can plan accordingly.

SEMINAR REGISTRATION OVERVIEW (continued)

SEMINAR SCHEDULES

- Most seminars run for 10 weeks. Some run for fewer weeks or start later.
- Please check the listing for schedule details and dates that the class will not meet.
- Seminars are usually two hours long, and are scheduled as follows:
 - AM Sessions are scheduled to begin at either 9:30 or 10:00 AM
 - PM Sessions are scheduled to begin at either 1:30 or 2:00 PM
 - Sessions are held Monday through Wednesday morning and afternoons and Thursday mornings.
- Please check the seminar pages in this catalog for individual seminar schedules.
- Enrollees are expected to attend regularly and participate actively in accordance with the moderator's guidelines.

PARTICIPANT RESPONSIBILITIES

- Participants should become familiar with their role and responsibilities.
- The Participants Handbook can be found on the website at: 5clir.org/documents
- Several guidebooks to Zoom for participants and moderators are at <https://5clir.org/tech-assistance/>
- In addition, members of the Tech Committee are available to provide assistance.

5CLIR OMBUDSPERSON

- Should a difficulty or situation arise in a seminar that cannot be resolved, the 5CLIR Ombudsman may be contacted for assistance.
- Contact: Anne Lombard at aslombard20@gmail.com or at 413-586-7509.

SEMINAR LOCATIONS

- As 5CLIR moves forward to accommodate our membership's desire to be resume in-person meetings, please be aware all locations are subject to change. We will attempt to keep seminars within the same town if they have to be moved.
- Please anticipate some COVID restrictions such as mask requirements or proof of vaccination for all in-person seminars and workshops.
- Moderators will be made aware of any restrictions and will pass those on to participants prior to the start date.

SEMINAR REGISTRATION INSTRUCTIONS

COMPLETING YOUR REGISTRATION FORM

- You can find the Registration Form on the website. It is linked at 5clir.org/forms/.
- Enter the total number of seminars in which you wish to be enrolled, excluding any that you are moderating, in the box provided. (Note: you are pre-enrolled in all seminars you are moderating; do not list them on this form.)
- Enter up to six choices, in order of preference. It is best to list more seminars than you wish to take, in case you are “lotteried out” of one of your choices.
- Enter the TOTAL NUMBER of seminars YOU WISH TO ENROLL IN in the box provided. If this box is blank, you will be assigned ONE seminar.
- If you wish to co-enroll with another member, you may register for **one** seminar together. That seminar must be the first choice of both members, and both members must submit registrations by the lottery deadline. Moderators may not co-register.

REGISTRATION AS AUDITOR

- Auditor status is open only to full members of 5CLIR who have participated in seminars for four or more years and who wish to take seminars but are unable to fulfill research and presentation requirements. Members who meet these requirements may request auditor status for the semester. This status applies to all seminars for that semester.
- Auditors may have reading or other assignments.
- Registrations made as an auditor are NOT included in the lottery and are added to seminars following regular enrollment, with the permission of moderators, as indicated on the course description page.

NEW WRITING TO REMEMBER INSTRUCTIONS

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN WRITING TO REMEMBER FOR FALL 2022?

Writing to Remember is one of the most popular seminars offered by LIR. It provides a unique opportunity for those enrolled to work on memoirs and recollections. The Writing to Remember sections become close intimate groups while sharing their work with one another. The Council has voted to run an experimental enrollment for Writing to Remember beginning with the Fall 2022 registration. Here is what you need to know:

ARE YOU CURRENTLY ENROLLED IN A WRITING TO REMEMBER SECTION FOR SPRING, 2022?

If you are currently in a Writing to Remember seminar, please let your moderator(s) know if you wish to enroll for the Fall 2022 seminar in your current section. If you do, you will be guaranteed a spot and it will become your first choice. During registration, you will list your Writing to Remember section as your first choice.

WERE YOU ENROLLED IN A WRITING TO REMEMBER SECTION FOR FALL, 2021 AND COULDN'T GET INTO YOUR SECTION FOR SPRING, 2022?

If you were in a Writing to Remember seminar in Fall 2021 and were unable to get a spot in the Spring 2022 seminar, contact your section's moderator(s) and let them know you wish to have a spot in the Fall 2022 Writing to Remember section. You will be guaranteed a spot and it will become your first choice. During registration, you will list the Writing to Remember section as your first choice.

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN TRYING A WRITING TO REMEMBER SECTION FOR FALL, 2022?

If you are interested in enrolling in a Writing to Remember section, you may list one or more sections as your first choice(s) during registration. You will be enrolled in at most one section. In the event that the Writing to Remember sections are filled with previous participants, LIR will open additional sections of Writing to Remember as needed to accommodate the interest.

LIR recognizes that Writing to Remember is a popular seminar and many members are interested in participating. This new method of enrollment is meant to assist sections to remain together and to assure that new members interested in Writing to Remember will have the opportunity to participate.

SEMINAR SCHEDULE

MONDAY AM

22F-WWP: Will you walk into my parlor? p. 11

22F-FRD: Friendship p.12

22F-BDL: Bob Dylan p.13

TUESDAY AM

22F-IDI: Idiomatic p. 17

22F-WAS: What I Wish I'd Asked - and Shared p. 18

22F-RAR: Rationalism in American Religion p. 19

22F-IPT: Indigenous Peoples Today p. 20

WEDNESDAY AM

22F-ARE: Are you now or Have you ever been... p. 24

22F-DEC: Development of Early Cities p. 25

22F-LAC: Life Along the Connecticut River p. 26

THURSDAY AM

22F-SSS: Short Stories to Share p. 30

22F-JAH: Jane Addams and Hull House p. 31

22S-WTRR: Writing to Remember (Red) p. 32

MONDAY PM

22F-MID: 2022 Midterm Elections p. 14

22F-EMM: Exploring Middlemarch p. 15

22F-WTRB: Writing to Remember (Blue) p. 16

TUESDAY PM

22F-TMF: Taboos and Moral Foundations p. 21

22F-GIH: Great Inventions in History p. 22

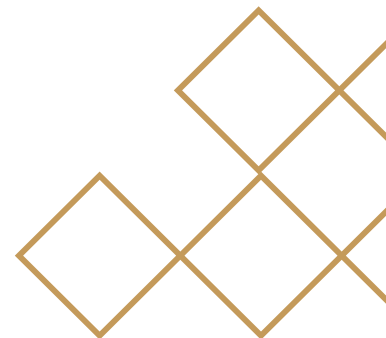
22F-GAP: The Golden Age of the Persians p. 23

WEDNESDAY PM

22F-NDN: Two Norwegian Detective Novels p. 27

22F-WTRP: Writing to Remember (Purple) p. 28

22F-SOR: Somewhere Over the Rainbow p. 29



WILL YOU WALK INTO MY PARLOR?

Interior design from William Morris to IKEA

COURSE #:

22F-WWP

FORMAT:

Seminar

MODERATOR:

Ellen Kosmer
Betsy Siersma

DATE & TIME:

Mon - 9:30 - 11:30 AM
10 Weeks
Starting on 9/26/2022

LOCATION:

Alumnae House,
Dining Rm
33 Elm St - Smith College

MAX NO. OF PARTICIPANTS:

16

AUDITORS

ACCEPTED:

Yes

MAX NO. OF AUDITORS:

2

PURPOSE:

The purpose of the seminar is to explore interior design from the Arts and Crafts period to the present and to look at how changes in society influence the design of spaces and furnishings of our homes.

DESCRIPTION:

Time spent hunkering down indoors during the pandemic resulted in an increasing interest in reimagining our living spaces. Magazines, newspaper articles, and television programs on home decor and design trends fueled our interests and helped shape our views on how we can design our living spaces to best suit our needs and interests.

In this seminar we will explore our domestic interior spaces from the Arts and Crafts movement (1890s-1910) through postwar modernism, including societal changes in the 1950s and 1960s, and up to the present day. Topics will include designers such as Eames and Breuer, the role of mass production of furniture, wall coverings, and appliances. We will look at how floor plans have changed from discrete rooms to open plans and lofts, new spaces such as home offices and family rooms. We will examine the aggrandizement of kitchens, bathrooms, and bedrooms, and consider the role of color, paint, wallpaper, lighting, flooring, accessibility, and green design.

ROLE OF PARTICIPANTS:

Participants will select a topic from a list provided, research, and give a 20-minute presentation, leaving the rest of the time for discussion.

RESOURCES:

Anne Massey, *Interior Design Since 1900* (Thames and Hudson, 2020).

ABOUT THE MODERATORS:

Ellen Kosmer is an art historian and an artist. Betsy Siersma is a museum curator and an artist.

FRIENDSHIP

Portrayals in modern novels

COURSE #:

22F-FRD

FORMAT:

Seminar

MODERATOR:

Bobbie Reitt
Joan McKelvey

DATE & TIME:

Mon - 9:30 - 11:30 AM
10 Weeks
Starting on 9/26/2022

LOCATION:

FCI Annex,
Hatfield

MAX NO. OF PARTICIPANTS:

18

AUDITORS ACCEPTED:

Yes

MAX NO. OF AUDITORS:

2

PURPOSE:

We will explore the concept of friendship in the modern Western world, using eight novels as case studies to refine our thinking about this deceptively simple idea. "Friend"—being one, having one, defining one—can be harder than it looks.

DESCRIPTION:

We often use "friend" casually, referring to someone we barely know. But we could be referring to someone as important as family. In this seminar, we will confront questions that have engrossed thinkers for centuries and have been subjects of controversy: Is it true that only good persons could be friends? Can women be friends? Children? Can friendship cross gender divides? Does competition destroy friendship? Can your spouse also be your friend? Your parent, or child?

Our sessions will be structured like those of previous seminars on portrayals of illness, marriage, and family. Each session will focus on one novel, which we will approach in two ways: one member will lead our discussion of its literary qualities and the second member will lead our discussion of its views of friendship.

Our first and final sessions will be devoted to our beginning and then our ending views of friendship, directing our attention to ways that seminar discussions have affected our thinking.

ROLE OF PARTICIPANTS:

Participants will (1) read all the works on the reading list and (2) prepare to lead a discussion either on the literary aspects of one of these works or on the kind of friendship it has portrayed and what the portrayal adds to our understanding of friendship.

RESOURCES:

Any edition is acceptable for the following: Margaret Atwood, *Cat's Eye*; Fannie Flagg, *Fried Green Tomatoes*; Gail Godwin, *Old Lovegood Girls*; John Knowles, *A Separate Peace*; R. J. Palacio, *Wonder*; Sarah Perry, *The Essex Serpent*; Wallace Stegner, *Crossing to Safety*; Evelyn Waugh, *Brideshead Revisited*.

ABOUT THE MODERATORS:

Bobbie Reitt is a retired book editor who has led seminars every year since joining LIR in 2004. Joan McKelvey, a retired social worker who practiced family therapy for 32 years, has co-moderated several previous seminars.

BOB DYLAN

A critical examination

COURSE #:

22F-BDL

FORMAT:

Seminar

MODERATOR:

Kip Fonsh

DATE & TIME:

Mon – 9:30 – 11:30 AM
10 Weeks
Starting on 9/26/2022

LOCATION:

Zoom
Online only

MAX NO. OF PARTICIPANTS:

12

AUDITORS ACCEPTED:

No

MAX NO. OF AUDITORS:

0

PURPOSE:

The purpose of the seminar is to conduct a critical analytical evaluation of Bob Dylan's recorded work.

DESCRIPTION:

We will use Dylan's recorded work as primary sources and will supplement them with secondary sources, both online and hard copies. We will critically analyze and evaluate Dylan's work by paying attention not only to the music, but to his social, cultural, political, and literary influences and legacy.

ROLE OF PARTICIPANTS:

Participants will be asked to select two of Dylan's albums to research. The moderator will want the presentations to be in chronological order and will schedule them accordingly. The moderator will provide the music if necessary.

RESOURCES:

The moderator will provide a list of Dylan's albums that can be used by the participants. There are many biographies of Dylan that can be used as resources.

ABOUT THE MODERATOR:

Kip has led seminars on *Zen and the Art of Motorcycle Maintenance*; the Beatles; and the Beats: Poets and Writers.

2022 MIDTERM ELECTIONS

Federal, state, and local

COURSE #:

22F-MID

FORMAT:

Seminar

MODERATOR:

Jay Russell

DATE & TIME:

Mon - 1:30 - 3:30 PM

10 Weeks

Starting on 9/26/2022

LOCATION:

Alumnae House
Board Room, Smith
College - 33 Elm St

MAX NO. OF PARTICIPANTS:

20

AUDITORS ACCEPTED:

No

MAX NO. OF AUDITORS:

0

PURPOSE:

This seminar will encourage participants to share and discuss information and analyses about the fall campaign's candidates, issues, and tactics before election day. Then, in two meetings after the election, we will review the results and speculate about their implications.

DESCRIPTION:

Historically, the party of the incumbent president fares badly, sometimes disastrously so, in the first mid-term election after a presidential election. Six months before the November 2022 mid-terms, the signs this year, according to many pundits, don't bode well for the Democrats.

In a departure from the traditional LIR seminar format of having each member give a single 20-35 minute presentation, this seminar will instead consist of roundtable discussions in the seven weeks prior to the election on as many as twenty topics chosen by the members prior to Labor Day. Each week members will also discuss, in addition to the two or three scheduled topics, events from the preceding and upcoming weeks. The two post-election meetings will review and analyze the results and discuss their implications for the next two years and the 2024 elections.

ROLE OF PARTICIPANTS:

Participants should be prepared to discuss and share insights on each week's scheduled topics. In addition, each participant will be expected to lead the discussion on at least one topic during the course of the seminar.

RESOURCES:

There is no single publication or resource required for this seminar. The moderator will provide a list of publications and websites that members can consult to supplement their usual sources for political and election news and analysis.

ABOUT THE MODERATOR:

Jay is the facilitator of Viewpoints and has co-moderated five election-year seminars since the 2016 primary and caucus season.

EXPLORING MIDDLEMARCH

Ambition, love, and moral refinements in nineteenth-century England

COURSE #:

22F-EMM

FORMAT:

Seminar

MODERATOR:

Nancy Coiner
Helen Regan

DATE & TIME:

Mon - 1:30 - 3:30 PM
10 Weeks
Starting on 9/26/2022

LOCATION:

Zoom

MAX NO. OF PARTICIPANTS:

18

AUDITORS ACCEPTED:

Yes

MAX NO. OF AUDITORS:

2

PURPOSE:

We will explore one of the most perceptive and philosophic novels of the nineteenth century, George Eliot's *Middlemarch*. Together, we will bemoan the characters' mistakes, cheer their victories, and applaud their growth (or lament their lack of it).

DESCRIPTION:

Widely accepted as among the most mature and sophisticated of British nineteenth-century novels, *Middlemarch* (1871-72) was hailed by Virginia Woolf as "one of the few English novels written for grown-ups." The novel focuses on a few middle-class families caught in the shifting political, economic, and religious currents of the 1830s. Readers watch—usually with sympathetic but horrified fascination—as several ambitious young people (male and female) try to carve out satisfying lives for themselves in the confined setting of an ordinary provincial town.

Born Mary Ann Evans in a rural village, George Eliot gives us moving, beautifully crafted portrayals of ardent, aspiring young people responding to life's inevitable temptations, disappointments, and failures. You do not need to be a literary scholar to love this novel, just someone who prizes emotional insight and the exploration of human weaknesses.

ROLE OF PARTICIPANTS:

Participants will read the novel and lead a discussion or give a presentation on a relevant topic. Topics could include Eliot's life, intellectual circle, critical responses to her novels, and aspects of English life of the period: politics, class stratification, medicine, religious controversies, marriage laws, and London versus the provinces.

RESOURCES:

Since no standard edition of the novel is being published right now, participants may read whatever version they choose. Used copies are easily available. The Norton Critical Edition has good notes.

ABOUT THE MODERATORS:

Nancy Coiner has read and taught literature of all sorts for most of her life. She has loved moderating two previous LIR seminars. Helen Regan, an undergraduate science major, spent her career in teaching and administration. Now, at last, she is enjoying a deep dive into literature.

WRITING TO REMEMBER (BLUE)

Writing your own story..

COURSE #:

22F-WTRB

FORMAT:

Seminar

MODERATOR:

Henia Lewin
Carol Jolly

DATE & TIME:

Mon - 1:30 - 3:30 PM
10 Weeks
Starting on 9/26/2022

LOCATION:

Zoom
Online Only

MAX NO. OF PARTICIPANTS:

12

AUDITORS ACCEPTED:

No

MAX NO. OF AUDITORS:

0

PURPOSE:

This seminar is intended to help people write about their life, share their stories with others, and hear others' stories.

DESCRIPTION:

Whatever we call the form - autobiography, memoir, personal story, family history - writing about one's life is a powerful human need. Many people want to leave behind some record of their thoughts, adventures and accomplishments. If it's a family story, it will have the added value of telling one's grandchildren about their heritage.

Writers are the custodians of memory, and too often, memories have a way of dying with their owner. One of the saddest sentences we know is "I wish I had asked my mother about that." In this seminar you'll enjoy writing about your life as well as hearing stories of other people's lives. The atmosphere is relaxed, but the serious efforts of all help make this a rewarding experience for the whole group.

ROLE OF PARTICIPANTS:

Each participant is expected to write at home about his or her life, whether through conversations, letters, vignettes, or in full detail. During the semester everyone will be given two opportunities to present by reading aloud from his or her prepared texts (one shorter, one longer), and to contribute to the discussions that follow.

ABOUT THE MODERATORS:

Henia Lewin taught University courses in Hebrew and Yiddish and received a national Covenant Award as an Outstanding Jewish Educator. She's a Holocaust child-survivor writing her autobiography and has moderated this seminar often.

Carol Jolly has served on LIR committees, Council, and as an officer. After sampling some seminars and moderating a few, she took Writing to Remember and has been working for several years now on her family history.

IDIOMATIC

Exploring the English language through its idioms

COURSE #:

22F-IDI

FORMAT:

Seminar

MODERATOR:

Jessie Tropp

DATE & TIME:

Tues - 9:30 - 11:30 AM
9 Weeks
Starting on 10/04/2022

LOCATION:

Zoom
Online Only

MAX NO. OF PARTICIPANTS:

18

AUDITORS ACCEPTED:

Yes

MAX NO. OF AUDITORS:

2

PURPOSE:

In this seminar we'll explore idioms and how these phrases that lend such nuance to our conversation came into common use.

DESCRIPTION:

As Ralph Waldo Emerson said, "Language is fossil poetry. As the limestone of the continent consists of infinite masses of the shells of animalcules, so language is made up of images, or tropes, which now, in their secondary use, have long ceased to remind us of their poetic origin."

An idiom is an expression that cannot be understood from the meanings of its separate words but that has a meaning of its own: A fly in the ointment, a fine kettle of fish, a shrinking violet. The origins of these expressions can be millennia old, with the original meaning transmuted over time into "fossil poetry." Idioms originate, for example, in the Bible, Shakespeare's plays, the seafaring life, and the military. In addition to origin sources, there are many idiom topics to explore, such as food, animals, plants, weather, and romance. A list of topic suggestions will be available for participants.

ROLE OF PARTICIPANTS:

Each participant will select one or more idiom topics to explore and present to the group in any format. Use PowerPoint or just talk, use pictures, draw cartoons, tell jokes, bring your grandchild, sing a song, be creative or be straightforward.

RESOURCES:

No required reading. Information is readily available online.

ABOUT THE MODERATOR:

This is Jessie's third time moderating an LIR seminar, all completely different. When her curiosity gets sparked by something, she knows that moderating is a great way to learn without having to do all the research herself.

WHAT I WISH I'D ASKED - AND SHARED

Leaving a legacy for others

COURSE #:

22F-WAS

FORMAT:

Seminar

MODERATOR:

Jeanne Ballantine
Catharine Porter

DATE & TIME:

Tues – 9:30 – 11:30 AM
10 Weeks
Starting 9/27/2022

LOCATION:

Amherst Women Club
Amherst

MAX NO. OF PARTICIPANTS:

15

AUDITORS ACCEPTED:

No

MAX NO. OF AUDITORS:

0

PURPOSE:

Defining the questions we wish we'd asked departed loved ones and wish our grandchildren would ask us is the purpose of the seminar. Participants will discuss relevant topics and create personal letters (with other documentation optional) identifying information to share with our descendants.

DESCRIPTION:

This seminar will have three interactive segments: 1. Discuss topics we wish we had asked before it was too late, and those we want to pass on to the next generations. 2. Develop responses to "what I wish I'd known" and "what I want my children, grandchildren, and close friends to know." 3. Put this information into a letter to the next generation (may include photos or other memorabilia).

This three-step process will explore what we wish we had known and asked, and what we want our descendants and close friends to know about us, presented in letter form.

ROLE OF PARTICIPANTS:

Two participants will read letters each week on "what I wish I had known" or letters to future generations: my growing up years; family dynamics; travels and adventures; favorite activities/foods; challenges faced in life; I am who I am because...; my contributions; advice to/hopes for next generations, among other possibilities.

ABOUT THE MODERATORS:

Jeanne Ballantine, professor emerita, sociology/global studies, numerous publications, taught 40 years, traveled and taught abroad, wants her children/grandchildren to share her adventures—but they're not ready to ask those questions now, focusing on their own lives!

Catharine Porter, professor emerita, worked at the University of Massachusetts as a professor and ombudsperson for her career. She has been active in LIR for many years, often leading "Writing to Remember" seminars.

RATIONALISM IN AMERICAN RELIGION

Liberal reason-based religious thought from the founding of the United States through the nineteenth century

COURSE #:

22F-RAR

FORMAT:

Seminar

MODERATOR:

Linda Honan

DATE & TIME:

Tues - 9:30 - 11:30 AM

10 Weeks

Starting 9/27/2022

LOCATION:

Zoom

MAX NO. OF PARTICIPANTS:

15

AUDITORS

ACCEPTED:

Yes

MAX NO. OF AUDITORS:

1

PURPOSE:

This seminar will investigate the history of reason in American religion. By the eighteenth century many influential Americans, despite their Puritan beginnings, embraced liberal religious thought, rejecting divine revelation and accepting only what science and nature revealed.

DESCRIPTION:

The seminar will follow the history of rational religious thought in the United States from the Revolution through the nineteenth century. Influenced by Enlightenment thinking, many of the founding fathers rejected religious dogma in favor of a rationalist outlook. While most still believed in God, their belief was based solely on science or nature, without reliance on scripture or religious authority.

In 1785 the congregation of King's Chapel in Boston converted to Unitarianism under the influence of their minister, James Freeman, the first Unitarian preacher in the United States. He exemplified the mindset of independent thought and individual responsibility that had been demonstrated by the American Revolution.

Many Massachusetts churches followed King's Chapel, and by the early nineteenth century the Harvard president and professor of divinity were both Unitarians. Their humanist mindset thrived as Unitarianism became dominant in Massachusetts, developing into several other rationalist groups including Deists, Universalists, Humanists, and Transcendentalists, whose members included Amos Bronson Alcott, Emerson, and Thoreau.

ROLE OF PARTICIPANTS:

Participants will choose a topic from among a list that will be created by the moderator. The topics will include important people and publications relating to our subject matter. At each session, each presenter will speak for 20-30 minutes, and then we will all join in discussion for the rest of the hour.

ABOUT THE MODERATOR:

Linda Honan is a retired museum educator and UMass administrator who lives happily in the Pioneer Valley.

INDIGENOUS PEOPLES TODAY

Asserting their sovereignty and culture

COURSE #:

22F-IPT

FORMAT:

Seminar

MODERATOR:

Miriam Whitney
Margaret Russell

DATE & TIME:

Tues - 10:00 - 12:00 AM

10 Weeks

Starting on 9/27/2022

LOCATION:

Common Room
Public Library
Hadley

MAX NO. OF PARTICIPANTS:

18

AUDITORS

ACCEPTED:

Yes

MAX NO. OF AUDITORS:

1

PURPOSE:

This seminar will explore today's activism of Indigenous Americans in defending their sovereign rights and cultural heritage.

DESCRIPTION:

Despite three centuries of efforts to eradicate them or force assimilation, Indigenous Americans have been asserting themselves in myriad ways over the past fifty years. They are fighting for tribal recognition and enforcement of centuries-old treaties to protect their ancestral lands and rights. Focused on preserving their cultures and languages, they're using political action to protect their land, resources, and peoples.

These actions are important because Native Americans live in a world where they are often thought of in the past tense, a theme echoed by numerous Indigenous leaders and writers.

Following an introduction and historical background, we will learn from examples of Indigenous resilience. These include land claims to water and mineral rights, creative partnerships to manage public lands, protection of ancestral remains and sacred sites, and resistance to outside adoption of Native children. The seminar will conclude with a literature discussion of Pulitzer Prize-winning novel *The Night Watchman* by Louise Erdrich.

ROLE OF PARTICIPANTS:

Most participants will research a designated topic using suggested tribes as examples, give a short 20-25 minute talk, and lead a 15-minute discussion. The talk will include background and the current status of the topic. Two participants will lead a discussion of *The Night Watchman*.

RESOURCES:

Required reading: (1) *Sierra Club Magazine* Fall 2021 feature on Deb Haaland, Secretary of the US Department of the Interior (online link to be provided); and (2) Louise Erdrich, *The Night Watchman* (historical fiction). The book is available from the local library system and local and online booksellers.

ABOUT THE MODERATORS:

Margaret's interest in Native Americans stems from high school, where several of her classmates were Mashpee Wampanoag. Miriam has long been interested in tribal issues. Her work at the US Department of Education included legal advice on federal grant programs to tribes. Both have co-moderated seminars.

TABOOS AND MORAL FOUNDATIONS

An examination of the forbidden, the disgusting, and how our moral framework intersects with taboos

COURSE #:

22F-TMF

FORMAT:

Seminar

MODERATOR:

Rachel Borson

DATE & TIME:

Tues - 1:30 - 3:30 PM
10 Weeks
Starting 9/27/2022

LOCATION:

Zoom
Online Only

MAX NO. OF PARTICIPANTS:

16

AUDITORS ACCEPTED:

No

MAX NO. OF AUDITORS:

0

PURPOSE:

Taboos are grounded in our moral codes. Participants will seek to understand how taboos arise, how they may change in response to different cultures and moral priorities, and how the emotion of disgust plays a pivotal role in taboos.

DESCRIPTION:

Is it wrong to have sex with your sister? If your dog dies, why not eat it? Taboos are an implicit ban on something based on a cultural sense that it is excessively repulsive, or perhaps, too sacred for just anyone.

Taboos may exist to protect the individual, to reflect medical or ecological assumptions, to increase cohesion in a group, to protect (or damage) a subset of the population, and to define moral boundaries.

Studies have repeatedly found that moral hypocrisy—behaving badly while simultaneously hectoring the rest of us to do good—evokes a level of anger that either lying nor wrongdoing brings out on its own.

Taboos intersect with both our cultural references and our moral foundations (care, fairness, liberty, loyalty, authority, and sanctity). These values in turn differ by politics and nationality.

We'll discuss a provocative essay about disgust, review a framework for moral foundations theory, and describe and discuss various universal and specific taboos.

ROLE OF PARTICIPANTS:

All participants will read and discuss an essay about disgust, and review some writings about Western moral foundations (links provided).

Presentations by participants will be focused on specific taboos such as those around food, hygiene, incest, pregnancy, childbirth, etc. There will also be presentations on cross-cultural taboos.

RESOURCES:

Molly Young, "How Disgust Explains Everything," *The New York Times Magazine* (12/27/2021).

Chapter 7 from *The Righteous Mind* by Jonathan Haidt (Pantheon Books, 2012) describing a framework for moral foundations.

Links to both will be provided to participants.

ABOUT THE MODERATOR:

Rachel is a retired physician who has been a member of 5CLIR for five years. Topics of greatest interest include those amenable to a multidisciplinary approach. This will be her fourth experience as a moderator.

GREAT INVENTIONS IN HISTORY

Exploring inventions that have made people's lives easier, in big or small ways

COURSE #:

22F-GIH

FORMAT:

Seminar

MODERATOR:

Jane McMurrich

DATE & TIME:

Tues - 1:30 - 3:30 PM

9 Weeks

Starting 9/27/2022

LOCATION:

Zoom

Online Only

MAX NO. OF PARTICIPANTS:

18

AUDITORS

ACCEPTED:

Yes

MAX NO. OF AUDITORS:

2

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this seminar is to learn about inventions, no matter how simple, that have made particular tasks easier throughout history.

DESCRIPTION:

In this seminar we will learn of practical inventions that have simplified various tasks. The invention might be just one item (like the Post-It Note) or it might be a series of inventions that facilitated one task (like different methods of measuring time over the centuries). Examples of inventions might be the wheel, the radio, gunpowder, the printing press. Examples of a series of inventions might be different ways to fasten a garment (buttons, zippers) or different ways to hear music (records, tapes, CDs).

ROLE OF PARTICIPANTS:

Participants will select an invention (possibly two) and prepare a presentation to describe it to fellow participants. Presentations should describe how people dealt with the task before the invention, the steps that led up to the innovation, and the impact it has had on the world. It is expected that all participants will join in a discussion of the topic after the presentation.

ABOUT THE MODERATOR:

The moderator is a former science teacher who has been participating in 5CLIR for 4 years.

THE GOLDEN AGE OF THE PERSIANS

From Cyrus the Great to Alexander the Great

COURSE #:

22F-GAP

FORMAT:

Seminar

MODERATOR:

Jim Harvey

DATE & TIME:

Tues - 1:30 - 3:30 PM
10 Weeks
Starting 9/27/2022

LOCATION:

Zoom
Online Only

MAX NO. OF PARTICIPANTS:

17

AUDITORS

ACCEPTED:

Yes

MAX NO. OF AUDITORS:

2

PURPOSE:

Participants will gain an appreciation of the Persian Empire.

DESCRIPTION:

Persia was one of the great superpowers, militarily and culturally. At one point their empire stretched from Istanbul to Kabul and south to southern Egypt. At the same time they were a global hub of culture, religion, science, art and technology for more than 200 years. Their architecture was world-class, providing the inspiration for the Taj Mahal. Their miniature paintings and other visual arts were superbly executed. And Alexander so admired the Persians for the way they organized their government bureaucracy that he borrowed their system for himself.

The seminar will cover the period from 600 BCE to the defeat of the Persians by Alexander in 330 BCE (i.e., Achaemenid Empire).

ROLE OF PARTICIPANTS:

Participants will read the material suggested by the moderator, prepare and deliver a 30-40 minute presentation of a topic relevant to the seminar and acceptable to the moderator, and lead a discussion of their topic during the remainder of the session.

RESOURCES:

The moderator will provide a list of suggested resources from which the participant will choose.

ABOUT THE MODERATOR:

Jim has been moderating 5CLIR seminars for 19 years. A number of them have dealt with ancient history, which he finds most interesting.

ARE YOU NOW OR HAVE YOU EVER BEEN...

McCarthyism and the threat to democracy

COURSE #:

22F-ARE

FORMAT:

Seminar

MODERATOR:

Neil Novik

Tyll van Geel

DATE & TIME:

Wed – 9:30 – 11:30 AM

10 Weeks

Starting on 9/28/2022

LOCATION:

Applewood,
Amherst

MAX NO. OF PARTICIPANTS:

18

AUDITORS ACCEPTED:

Yes

MAX NO. OF AUDITORS:

2

PURPOSE:

We will examine McCarthyism by considering its roots, the areas of American life it affected most, the major players and forces at work, and the legacies and lessons that can be gleaned from this dark period in American history.

DESCRIPTION:

McCarthyism is named for the senator from Wisconsin who was relatively unknown before he burst onto the scene in 1950. However, the era's roots go back decades before McCarthy and lasted years beyond his death. McCarthyism touched every corner of American life. People came under suspicion and many were fired, blacklisted, and arrested, not only because of their political beliefs, but also because of whom they spoke to, what they read or wrote, or who their relatives and friends were. Protecting democracy was secondary to the "clear and present danger" that communism supposedly presented.

Each session of the seminar will be devoted to one broad theme related to McCarthyism, such as the rise and fall of American Communism. A list of these themes will be distributed in advance of the seminar. A list of suggested topics within each session's overall theme will also be distributed. Topics other than those on the list will be allowed with the approval of the moderators.

ROLE OF PARTICIPANTS:

Participants will read the material suggested by the moderator, prepare and deliver a 30-40 minute presentation of a topic relevant to the seminar and acceptable to the moderator, and lead a discussion of their topic during the remainder of the session.

RESOURCES:

The moderators will provide a list of resources.

ABOUT THE MODERATORS:

Neil Novik has been an LIR member for seven years and has moderated or co-moderated a variety of seminars on American history, crime fiction, and radio. Tyll van Geel is a long-time member of 5CLIR who has regularly moderated seminars on history and law, and is currently serving as past president of 5CLIR.

DEVELOPMENT OF EARLY CITIES

Physical, social, economic, and political structures

COURSE #:

22F-DEC

FORMAT:

Seminar

MODERATOR:

Larry Ambs
Kathy Campbell

DATE & TIME:

Wed – 9:30 – 11:30 AM
10 Weeks
Starting on 9/28/2022

LOCATION:

Zoom
Online Only

MAX NO. OF PARTICIPANTS:

16

AUDITORS ACCEPTED:

Yes

MAX NO. OF AUDITORS:

2

PURPOSE:

We will review the archeological evidence from some of the world's earliest cities and learn about how modern archeology uses such evidence to make inferences about the social structures and everyday lives of their residents.

DESCRIPTION:

Physically, cities are defined as conglomerations of people and buildings grouped together to serve as a political, cultural, or economic center. For 95% of human existence, people lived in villages of not more than a few hundred people, where it was possible to know everyone else personally or at least by reputation. But in order to live in larger communities, i.e., in cities, humans needed to build new types of physical infrastructure, establish new cultural norms, and devise new rules and systems of governance that would permit unrelated individuals and complete strangers to live together in reasonable harmony.

Modern archeological exploration of ancient cities such as Çatalhöyük, Cahokia, Mojenjo-daro, Teotihuacan, or Uruk involves much more than reconstructing the built environment, although that of course remains important. In this seminar we will look at the archeological evidence for the various solutions and attempted solutions to the new social and political problems faced by early cities.

ROLE OF PARTICIPANTS:

Each participant will select a city to report on. The moderators will supply a list of cities as well as initial research options. Participants may select another city with the approval of the moderators.

RESOURCES:

The moderators will suggest background reading and help participants identify resources for their specific cities.

ABOUT THE MODERATORS:

Larry has moderated many seminars on topics ranging from political history to historical archaeology and the sciences. Kathy has moderated seminars on economics, democracy, language, and climate change.

LIFE ALONG THE CONNECTICUT RIVER

17th & 18th centuries

COURSE #:

22F-LAC

FORMAT:

Seminar

MODERATOR:

Kay Klausewitz

Jim Harvey

DATE & TIME:

Wed – 9:30 – 11:30 AM

10 Weeks

Starting on 9/28/2022

LOCATION:

Zoom

Online Only

MAX NO. OF PARTICIPANTS:

18

AUDITORS ACCEPTED:

Yes

MAX NO. OF AUDITORS:

2

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this seminar is to better appreciate life in our area, the Connecticut River Valley, in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, from the first European settlements to the Revolutionary War.

DESCRIPTION:

The format of the class will be the familiar presentation and discussion widely used in LIR. In the ten weeks we have, we will explore as many aspects of life in the Connecticut River Valley as we can, including history, religion, politics, education, beliefs, entertainment, and everyday life.

ROLE OF PARTICIPANTS:

Participants will be asked to lead a session, adhering to the geographic and time period guidelines.

RESOURCES:

The moderators will provide a list of suggested publications and other resources.

ABOUT THE MODERATORS:

Jim has, over his membership years, led about 40 popular seminars. This is Kay's first. Both Jim and Kay have longtime interests in genealogy, which has led to enhanced interest in history of people's lives in this area.

TWO NORWEGIAN DETECTIVE NOVELS

Two contemporary novels exploring the impact of Nazi collaboration and the consequences of unpurged guilt

COURSE #:

22F-NDN

FORMAT:

Seminar

MODERATOR:

Gerald Goldman

DATE & TIME:

Wed - 1:30 - 3:30 PM

10 Weeks

Starting on 9/28/2022

LOCATION:

Applewood
Amherst

MAX NO. OF PARTICIPANTS:

16

AUDITORS

ACCEPTED:

No

MAX NO. OF AUDITORS:

0

PURPOSE:

Participants will read and discuss themes in the novels of two contemporary writers whose stories are rich in compelling characters, brilliant plotting, and provocative social questions.

DESCRIPTION:

Jo Nesbo's novel *The Redbreast* examines the roles played by pro-Nazi and anti-Nazi Norwegians during World War II. He uses flashbacks to pro-Nazi soldiers facing Russian invaders, as well as the mysterious assassinations in present time of collaborators and their skinhead admirers.

Derek Miller in *American by Day* sends his Norwegian chief inspector to upstate New York in search of her missing brother. While there she witnesses the divide separating black and white communities, the roles police play in exacerbating these divisions, and the ways they are exploited by politicians.

Both novels examine the nature of personal and collective memory, regret, and resentment. Both demand blood for blood. And both require the main character to expose the repressed memories in order fulfill the demand for closure.

ROLE OF PARTICIPANTS:

Participants will lead a discussion on chapters selected from each of the two novels with the aid of a list of themes provided by the moderator.

RESOURCES:

Jo Nesbo, *The Redbreast* (HarperCollins 2007)

Derek Miller, *American by Day* (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2018)

ABOUT THE MODERATOR:

The moderator has led many seminars on European and American literature.

WRITING TO REMEMBER (PURPLE)

Finding and using our voices in personal writing

COURSE #:

22F-WTRP

FORMAT:

Seminar

MODERATOR:

Finnegan
Alford-Cooper

DATE & TIME:

Wed - 1:30 - 3:30 PM
10 Weeks
Starting on 9/28/2022

LOCATION:

Zoom
Online Only

MAX NO. OF PARTICIPANTS:

12

AUDITORS ACCEPTED:

Yes

MAX NO. OF AUDITORS:

1

PURPOSE:

The seminar provides participants with an opportunity to write their own stories about their lives, whether it is for other readers of themselves.

DESCRIPTION:

The purple writing group is a chance to write about one's life memories. Each week two or three participants will read their pieces to the group, and the group will offer their responses. Each writer emails his/her writing to the group at least 48 hours before he/she presents, so that the readers can have time to read and reflect on the writing. The participants' feedback is enriched by hearing it read in the author's voice during our meeting time. Writers choose the content, style, format and genre of their writing and tell the other participants what sort of feedback they want.

ROLE OF PARTICIPANTS:

Each participant will write and read two pieces of original work. During the semester everyone will be given two opportunities to present by reading aloud from his or her prepared texts (one shorter, one longer), and to contribute to the discussions that follow. Participants will also offer constructive feedback to others as requested. Together the participants will discuss ideas for conducting the seminar, build a calendar of presentations, and discuss writing generally.

RESOURCES:

There are no required readings. Over the course of the seminar members are encouraged to share their favorite articles and books about personal writing.

ABOUT THE MODERATOR:

Finnegan has participated in Writing to Remember (Purple) since Spring 2020. She co-moderated with Francie Borden during Fall 2021, and is the current moderator in Spring 2022.

SOMEWHERE OVER THE RAINBOW

Those magnificent wo/men in their flying machines

COURSE #:

22F-SOR

FORMAT:

Seminar

MODERATOR:

Michael Miller
Robert Cohen

DATE & TIME:

Wed - 1:30 - 3:30 PM
10 Weeks
Starting on 9/28/2022

LOCATION:

Zoom
Online Only

MAX NO. OF PARTICIPANTS:

18

AUDITORS ACCEPTED:

Yes

MAX NO. OF AUDITORS:

2

PURPOSE:

When we all feel safe to travel again, we will flock to the airports. Airflight is taken for granted, but it is a recent creation. How did it evolve? Who was responsible? We will explore these questions.

DESCRIPTION:

Humans have dreamt of flight for eons; case in point is the story of Daedalus and Icarus. But it was only from the turn of the century that heavier-than-air machine flight was achieved. Then, it was less than 70 years until people stood on the moon. Miraculous.

In the beginning, planes were used for sport and as a hobby. Then, they were used for entertainment, stunts, and delivery of parcels. Inevitably, airplanes were used by the military, in wars, and for passenger travel. Finally, spacecraft were used to explore extraterrestrial bodies—the moon, planets, and even the sun. Science fiction has become science fact and achievement.

In this seminar, we will discuss the people and agencies that innovated and guided us through this miracle. We will discuss the courageous, the successful, and the foolhardy.

ROLE OF PARTICIPANTS:

Each participant will give the class a presentation and lead a discussion on the contribution of an individual or group to the evolution of flight. Examples include Otto Lilienthal, Amelia Earhart, the Tuskegee Airmen, Chuck Yeager, Christy McAuliffe, and Roscosmos.

RESOURCES:

Class members will be asked to find resources that are relevant and informative. This seminar lends itself well to the on-line environment. PowerPoints with still images or videos will be shared on the Zoom platform.

ABOUT THE MODERATORS:

Michael Miller and Bob Cohen are excited about the subject, though truth be told, they have flown only in the passenger compartments of airplanes or helicopters.

SHORT STORIES TO SHARE

The seminar will provide the opportunity for participants to gather for group enjoyment of storytelling and discussion.

COURSE #:

22F-SSS

FORMAT:

Seminar

MODERATOR:

Chuck Aulino

DATE & TIME:

Thurs - 9:30 - 11:30 AM

10 Weeks

Starting on 9/29/2022

LOCATION:

Applewood
Amherst

MAX NO. OF PARTICIPANTS:

20

AUDITORS ACCEPTED:

Yes

MAX NO. OF AUDITORS:

2

PURPOSE:

The seminar will provide the opportunity for participants to gather for group enjoyment of storytelling and discussion.

DESCRIPTION:

The idea for this seminar comes from "Selected Shorts," a public radio program. It will provide an opportunity to enjoy both reading aloud and being read to. Each of our two-hour meetings will feature two presenters, who will read aloud for about 40 minutes each, allowing time for a brief discussion to follow and a short break between stories.

ROLE OF PARTICIPANTS:

Each participant will select a personal favorite short story and read it aloud to the group. Participants are expected to practice reading aloud and to time their presentations so that they are certain to fit within the available time (approximately 40 minutes). They will also lead the discussion that follows.

ABOUT THE MODERATOR:

Chuck has previously moderated and co-moderated several seminars, including a previous edition of Short Stories to Share.

JANE ADDAMS AND HULL HOUSE

Empowering the American progressive movement

COURSE #:

22F-JAH

FORMAT:

Seminar

MODERATOR:

Rutherford Platt
Gene Fisher

DATE & TIME:

Thurs - 9:30 - 11:30 AM
10 Weeks
Starting on 9/29/2022

LOCATION:

Zoom
Online Only

MAX NO. OF PARTICIPANTS:

14

AUDITORS ACCEPTED:

Yes

MAX NO. OF AUDITORS:

2

PURPOSE:

The seminar will revisit the extraordinary history and legacies of Jane Addams (1860-1935) and Chicago's Hull House as instruments of social change, progressive reform, and peace advocacy from the 1890s until the 1960s.

DESCRIPTION:

Hull House was founded by Jane Addams and Ellen Gates Starr in 1889 amid immigrant neighborhoods on the west side of Chicago. Under Addams's direction, Hull House expanded from a single building to a thirteen-building complex by 1907. It became world famous as a center providing social services to thousands of low-income families and as an advocate for women and children, labor and factory reform, civil rights, and international peace. Several "residents" of Hull House would become social reform leaders themselves, including Florence Kelley, Julia Lathrop, Alice Hamilton, and the Abbott sisters, who founded the University of Chicago School of Social Work. Frances Perkins and Harold Ickes, both Hull House alums, served in FDR's New Deal cabinet. Addams was co-recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize in 1931 for her leadership in the international women's peace movement.

ROLE OF PARTICIPANTS:

Participants will select and report on either (1) a particular individual in the Hull House entourage and their contributions, or (2) a specific public policy issue confronted by Hull House (e.g., public health, sweatshops, civil rights).

RESOURCES:

Louise Knight, *Jane Addams: Spirit in Action* (W.W. Norton, 2010).

ABOUT THE MODERATORS:

Dr. Platt is an urban geographer and lawyer who in retirement from UMass Amherst has sought to revive awareness of the critical roles of Addams and Hull House in shaping the American progressive movement and later generations of social reformers. Gene Fisher is a sociologist who has led several seminars at LIR. As a sociologist he is interested in community organization and housing issues.

WRITING TO REMEMBER (RED)

Autobiographical writing

COURSE #:

22F-WTRR

FORMAT:

Seminar

MODERATOR:

Catharine Porter
Trish Callard

DATE & TIME:

Thurs - 9:30 - 11:30 AM
10 Weeks
Starting on 9/29/2022

LOCATION:

Amherst Women Club
Amherst

MAX NO. OF PARTICIPANTS:

12

AUDITORS ACCEPTED:

No

MAX NO. OF AUDITORS:

0

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this seminar is to share your life experiences with fellow participants and, at the same time, record them for yourself and your family.

DESCRIPTION:

Long one of the most popular LIR seminars (previously called "Autobiographical Writing"), Writing to Remember offers its members the opportunity to get to know themselves and each other a little better.

Many participants have taken advantage of this seminar to write their family story for their children and grandchildren. The writing takes all forms, from rough drafts to polished pieces, and all are welcome. The group offers the writer feedback and, if desired, will offer suggestions for revisions and/or possible additions as well as clarifications. This seminar is not a course in how to write; it aims, rather, to stimulate and encourage you to continue writing your own story, your writing can center on the events of family life, career experiences, or anything else you would like to tell about yourself.

ROLE OF PARTICIPANTS:

Each participant has the opportunity to read aloud two pieces of original writing during the semester. The atmosphere is relaxed, but the serious efforts of all concerned help make this a rewarding experience for everyone.

ABOUT THE MODERATORS:

Catharine is a retired UMass faculty member from the Department of Consumer Studies, and Ombudsperson. Catherine has moderated this seminar previously. Trish is a wife, mother, grandmother, and teacher of writing with children and grateful for the opportunity now to write stories and get inspired by the stories of others!

COMMITTEES

Join a Committee

While the seminars offered in this catalog are the foundation of LIR's commitment to peer-led life-long learning, LIR offers many other opportunities to work with others to further our mission. The committees listed below offer opportunities for successful collaboration to accomplish specific goals. Along the way, you will learn what makes LIR tick, make new friends, and gain the satisfaction of having made a difference. New members are especially invited to sign on and speak up.

Use the online form at 5clir.org under Leadership & Governance/Committees to sign up. Or email the 5CLIR vice-president at francieborden@gmail.com with your questions and concerns.

5CLIR depends on its members to provide an interesting, quality program, in service of its mission. Without volunteers for the committees described below realizing LIR's mission would be impossible. So please do "give back" by volunteering.

The contact form for Council can be found here: <https://5clir.org/council-and-officers/>.

Curriculum

This committee oversees the central mission of LIR. It meets and is charged with all aspects of maintaining a diverse offering of up to 25 peer-led seminars and workshops every Fall and Spring, plus shorter Summer seminars/workshops.

Chair(s): Two Chairs.

Members: 12 Members.

Encore

Collects and organizes recommended presentations from the previous semester's seminars and makes them available to the membership and the public on Friday mornings.

Chair(s): One Chair

Great Decisions

In conjunction with the Foreign Policy Association (fpa.org), this committee organizes a series of lectures each spring open to LIR members and the public for a modest fee.

Chair(s): One Chair

Members: 4 Members

Social Events

The committee organizes social events several times a year, including a fall picnic and an annual New Members' "Coffee".

Chair(s): Two Chairs

Members: Three Members

COMMITTEES (continued)

Special Programs

This committee finds, manages, and offers one-of-a-kind programs or series of programs, usually open to the public as well as the membership. Fees may be charged for attendance. Presenters or performers are often compensated with honoraria.

Chair(s): One Chair

Members: Variable

Outreach

The committee initiates and coordinates our messaging both internally and externally. The Newsletter and the Website fall under the umbrella of this committee.

Chair(s): One Chair

Members: Four Members

Technology

The members of this committee offer workshops, how-to guides, and individual personal assistance regarding the multiple technologies and software used by LIR members, e.g. Zoom, and PowerPoint.

Chair(s): Two Co-Chairs

Members: Variable

Governance Committees

Executive

The committee is comprised of the six LIR elected Officers. It has general supervision over the affairs of 5CLIR as directed by Council. It may act on time-sensitive and confidential matters in the name of Council, subject to the approval of Council at the next meeting.

Finance

The Finance Committee is comprised of the treasurer, assistant treasurer, the Vice President, the past president and two other members nominated by the president and approved by Council. The committee advises the treasurer and works on financial development.

Nominating

The nominating supervises the nominations for officers and Council and their election. The committee consists of a chair, who is a member of Council, and four additional LIR voting members, at least two of whom are not current Council members. Current officers may not serve on the committee. The president nominates the members and Council approves.

Committees (continued)

2020-2021 5CLIR Committees		Committee Chairs
	Curriculum	Kathy Campbell Susan Beer
	Encore	Elisa Campbell
	Extra-Curricular	Kip Fonsh
	Great Decisions	Bruce Brewer
	Interest Groups	Jane McMurrish
	Special Programs	Ellen Kosmer
	Special Events	Nancy Clune Catharine Porter
	Outreach	Margaret Russell Kay Klausewitz
	Technology	Larry Ambs Gordon Wyse
Governance Committees	Executive	Tyll van Geel
	Finance	Monroe Rabin
	Nomination	Kay Klausewitz

INTEREST GROUPS

At this time, 5CLIR in-person programs are continuing online; this may change – please email the contact person for information.

To join an interest group, membership in 5CLIR is required.

Members should contact the facilitator. No registration form is needed.

These are the Interest Groups that are currently being offered.

Members are welcome to propose a new group; suggestions should be sent to Jane McMurrich at jane.mcmurrich@gmail.com

BOOK INTEREST GROUP

Facilitator: Naomi Yanis naomi1937@comcast.net

Day and Time: Monthly on varying Fridays.

September – May, 1:30-3:00PM (subject to change)

Responsibility for leading the discussion of each book is rotated among the membership of the book group. The choices for the year are made early in the summer, so some of the reading may be done when more time for reading might be available.

CLASSIC FILM CLUB

Conveners: Pam Daniels harper227@comcast.net

Tyll van Geel tyllvangeel@gmail.com

Day and Time: Third Thursday of the month at 4PM

December 2022 – June 2023

Each month, a participant will select a film for the next session, and prepare to lead an informal discussion. We will watch the films on our own time between the meetings. The Kanopy film archive is available at <http://www.kanopy.com>, and you can set up a user id using your library card or university ID. The range of movies available without charge on Kanopy is significant including many Criterion films, drama and comedy from the golden years of Hollywood, and many productions of Shakespeare. The selected film on a DVD may also be available from your local library, and films are also available for a rental fee from Amazon.

We aim for a minimum of 8 participants (including conveners). Should the number of people who wish to join reach a number that seems too large, the possibility exists for the creation of a new “spin-off” group. New members are encouraged to join.

READING THE CLASSICS

Facilitator: Lise Armstrong esarmstrong@comcast.net

Day and Time: January - October, 10 meetings a year

the 4th Thursday of the month, at 2:00 PM

This is a book club focused on books considered to be classics of literature. Each month a new book is read, and discussed at the meeting

INTEREST GROUPS (CONTINUED)

FAMILY HISTORY GROUP

Facilitators: Jim Harvey jimharvey293@gmail.com
Kay Klausewitz kayklausewitz@gmail.com

Day and Time: TBA

This program will focus on several components of our family histories. One important source of information is the family tree which documents the DNA part of our heritage. We will have some instructional time to introduce some genealogical tools and resources available to us. A second source is the collection of stories that have been passed down by word of mouth. The third important source of information about our heritage is an understanding of the cultures that shaped our ancestors' perspectives. We will spend our time sharing what we can discover about each of these sources.

READING ROUND TABLE

Facilitator: Nancy Clune nancyhclune@gmail.com

Day and Time: First Wednesday of the month, 4:00 PM

Join other incurable readers for an informal round table one Wednesday afternoon a month @ 4:00 pm. Whether you prefer literary fiction, biographies, nonfiction, science fiction, plays, detective series, or graphic novels, you're welcome to join this eclectic group. We talk about what we're currently reading (or listening to), where we get our recommendations, trends in publishing, and anything else that interests us. No prerequisites or homework!

VIEWPOINTS

Facilitator: Jay Russell j7m4russell@gmail.com

Day and Time: 3rd Thursday of the month, 2:00 - 3:00 PM

Viewpoints is a monthly round-table discussion, facilitated by Jay Russell, of current domestic and international events and issues (often, but not always, political) and other subjects not necessarily tied to the headlines of the day (such as the culture war, free speech restrictions in schools and colleges, and policing and firearms). Each month's participants choose four topics for roughly 20-minute discussions.

During the Zoom era, Viewpoints will meet from 2:00 – 3:30 on the third Thursday of each month. If you have any questions or wish to be included on monthly Viewpoints reminder emails and Zoom invitations, please email Jay Russell.



Five Colleges Learning In Retirement

Peer-led Life Long Learning in the Pioneer Valley

Amherst College - Smith College - Hampshire College - UMASS Amherst - Mount Holyoke College

5CLIR Officers 2022-2023

President:	Tyll van Geel
Vice President/ President Elect:	Francie Borden
Past President:	Nancy Denig
Secretary:	Darcy Johnson
Treasurer:	Monroe Rabin
Assistant Treasurer:	Gene Fisher

Statement on Diversity and Inclusion

Five Colleges Learning in Retirement welcomes as members and guests, persons of any race, color, national or ethnic origin, sex or gender (including sexual orientation and gender identity), disability, religious belief, and socio-economic status.

Further, Five Colleges Learning in Retirement does not discriminate in its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national or ethnic origin, sex or gender (including sexual orientation and gender identity), disability, religious belief, or socio-economic status.



5CLIR
Five College, Inc
Learning In Retirement
Peer-led Lifelong Learning

18 Henshaw Ave, Bldg C2, Ste 101
Smith College Campus
Northampton, MA 01063

(413) 585-3756
5clir@smith.edu

www.5clir.org