

FALL 2011 ICLRU STUDY GROUPS SEPT. 12 – NOV. 11



History



Literature



Cinema



ICLRU members:

Your registration for study groups indicates your sincere intention to attend and participate. Please register for a study group only if you plan to attend regularly. If you register and find you cannot attend, please notify the coordinator as soon as possible.

As of July 25, 2011 the ICLRU Center will begin processing online registrations as well as paper registration forms which have been mailed in or delivered in person.

The deadline for registration is August 19

Please register online if possible.

This saves clerical work!



*Science
& tech*

Music



And much more!

MONDAY 9:00-11:30

JOHN AND ABIGAIL ADAMS

Coordinators: Tom Gavigan, Sue Gavigan and Harry Trumfio



Join us for a look into the life and times of our second president and his first lady. We will explore their early life in colonial America, their involvement in the events leading to America's break from Great Britain, their long separations, his diplomatic service and their involvement in the government of the new Republic. Along with lecture and discussion, we will view the Emmy award winning HBO series *John Adams*. **Note longer class time.**



MONDAY 9:30-11:30

PRACTICAL PROBABILITY

Coordinator: George Gintowt

Every day we're exposed to statistics intended to inform or persuade us--a 30% chance of rain, how lifestyle choices affect longevity, opinion poll results, etc. To better evaluate such information we'll explore the principles and methods of probability and statistical reasoning. We'll use videos--designed for non-mathematicians--along with lecture and discussion segments. Useful and entertaining topics include the nature of randomness, game theory, random walks, gambling, genetic drift, weather forecasting, misuse of statistics and counterintuitive cases in probability. **Maximum participants: 25; minimum: 15.**



BUDDHISM AND CHRISTIANITY

Coordinator: Gene Ahern

We will examine aspects of Buddhism and how it relates to Christian belief and practice. Lectures, discussion and DVDs will include the role of meditation in these religions. Your coordinator has advanced degrees in theology and classical languages. **Note that we will meet only during the first six weeks of the fall schedule.**



MONDAY 1:00-3:00

DRAWING WORKSHOP— ONWARDS & UPWARDS!

Coordinator: Camille Khoury

"We allow no geniuses around our studio." (Walt Disney)

These will be informal sessions for members who have attended previous drawing study groups or who have had past drawing experience. We will focus on further learning and practice of drawing skills. This workshop will help improve skills as participants share insights, ideas and support. Please bring your own materials. **Minimum participants: 5.**



MONDAY 1:00-3:00

A WOMAN'S PLACE

Coordinators: Cathy Jensen and Jan Biegert

We--and friends--plan a potpourri of presentations on various aspects of women's lives. Note that this will be a participatory study group--each attendee will present a topic of her choice followed by discussion. Topics might include the arts, pop culture, religion, work, fashion, myths, heroes, advertising, politics, music or ????. We look forward to your ideas and participation. **Maximum participants: 30.**



TUESDAY 9:00-11:30

CLASSIC FILMS

Coordinators: Gordon Palmer and Judy Miller

Each week we will see a film and discuss various aspects of the film, including actors, directors, stories, music, etc. We will concentrate on "classic" films of the 30's, 40's, 50's and 60's, when all the great Hollywood movie studios were in their heyday. Films are generally over 40 years old. Class members are encouraged to present one of their favorite films from this era. Coordinators will provide assistance to presenters, if desired. **Note longer time period.**



TUESDAY 9:30-11:30

RELIGIOUS WARS

Coordinators: Bob Allen and Jim Kacena

We will study the "just war theory" and various wars including the Crusades, the French wars of religion, the Thirty Years war, the Taiping Rebellion and the Mormon war.



ORIENTAL BRUSH PAINTING

Coordinator: Carolyn Simons

Learn the basics of the art of Oriental brush painting. Discover the "Four Gentlemen" of the ancient art of ink painting on rice paper. These sessions are for both new and returning students. Former students are welcome to attend the sessions as a workshop (bring your own supplies and equipment). **First-time participants will pay a fee of \$25 for materials. Minimum participants: 4.**



TUESDAY 1:00-3:00

WHO WROTE THE “WHO DONE ITS”?

Coordinator: Carolyn Simons

Join us this fall as we hunt for clues and seek out facts about the authors who wrote the mystery novels we all love to read. If you have a favorite, you can share it with the group.



GEOLOGY OF AMERICA

Coordinator: Anita Brandes

The United States of America is more than 200 years old but the continent of North America is more than 2 billion years old. Find out about the processes that have physically shaped our country: Why are the Great Lakes so great? How did lessons learned at Mt. St. Helens save lives thousands of miles away? Why does Yosemite have such amazing scenery? Why is Yellowstone one of the dangerous places on Earth? Where is a new ocean forming? Where are the oldest rocks in America? All this and more! No prerequisite. **Minimum participants: 24.**



BROOKS/BROOKS

Coordinator: George Venetis

Melvin Kaminsky and Albert Lawrence Einstein have more than their adopted stage names in common. They are both groundbreaking writers and directors who have brought to the screen some of the most cleverly conceived and hilarious movies of the past three decades. Join us as we watch each director's films on alternate weeks, starting with Mel Brooks' *Blazing Saddles*, followed by Albert Brooks' *Lost in America*. These and two of our other films appear on lists of the 100 funniest comedies of all time!

Minimum participants: 10.



EXPLORING SHAKESPEARE'S LESSER-KNOWN PLAYS

Coordinators: Mary Ann Mroz and Kathryn Dublinski

We will be reading aloud two of Shakespeare's lesser known plays. *Timons of Athens* is a tragedy about flattery, misanthropy and hypocrisy. *Measure For Measure* is a dark comedy in which a politician gets caught in a sex scandal. (Some things never change.) After reading each play, we will watch and discuss the BBC version on DVD. **Note: Attendees should buy their own copies of these plays before the first session. We recommend the Folgers series. Maximum participants: 15; minimum: 10.**



WEDNESDAY 9:30-11:30

CURRENT EVENTS

Coordinator: Bob Gilden

Participate in lively, stimulating and provocative discussions of current events. With Republicans controlling the House, what's the future for the Obama agenda and 2012 prospects? This fall the Republican candidate for the 2012 election probably will be determined. Your participation will make for an interesting and thought-provoking exchange of ideas. All Democrats, Republicans and Independents are welcome! **Minimum participants: 15.**



THE HISTORY OF THE SUPREME COURT

Coordinator: Les Miller

This study group will cover the history of the Supreme Court dating from revolutionary times. We will use the Teaching Company course by Professor Peter Irons, which covers developments through 2000. The coordinator will present additional historical information and developments since 2000, and we'll discuss current legal issues of interest to participants. The fall session will cover developments until the end of World War II. Later developments will be covered in the winter and spring sessions. Participants may take individual sessions even if they will not be able to participate in all three.

WEDNESDAY 9:30-12:00

SILENTS PLEASE!

Coordinator: David Sullivan

The motion picture, developed late in the 19th century, reached a golden age during the first two decades of the 20th century. Today we enjoy wide screen surround sound with magnificent color in our theaters and homes. In the early 1900's, people were drawn to movie palaces that offered "moving pictures" with sub-titles and piano or organ music to create the mood. We now call this the "Silent Movie Era" and hundreds of films are being restored and remastered to recapture that exciting era. Join us as we enjoy many classic silent era films and learn about the pioneers in the medium. **Maximum participants: 20; minimum: 5. Note longer time period; the final 30 minutes are reserved for discussion.**



WEDNESDAY 1:00-3:00

MEET OUR NEIGHBOR TO THE NORTH

Coordinators: Tom Dooley and Earl Arnold

Our sessions will cover the history of Canada from earliest settlements to the present. We'll study the early development and expansion of Canada and the nature of its relationships with the U.S., Great Britain, France and others. We'll also cover the nation's current political, economic and cultural situations both – national and international. The lives of prominent historical figures will be discussed and ongoing sources of information will be reviewed. Highlighting the sessions will be newly filmed historical documentation from Canada's Department of Filmed History.



WEDNESDAY 1:00-3:00

GREAT LITERATURE: PERSPECTIVES ON LIFE

Coordinator: Kathleen Miller

Participants will be invited to discuss Teaching Company lectures by J. Rufus Fears, from the series "Books That Have Made History: Books That Can Change Your Life." Lecture topics include: Virgil, Pericles, Lincoln, Remarque, Confucius, Machiavelli, Plato, Mill, and Malory. Peer presentations on additional works will help add perspective to the "big ideas." There will be brief reading assignments (available online).



THE AMAZING THINGS YOU CAN DO WITH GOOGLE

Coordinator: Mike Thompson

We all know that Google is a great search engine. Many of us don't realize all of the other amazing things you can do with a Google/Gmail account—all for FREE!!! We will show you: how to create a free Google account if you don't have one; how to customize Google search with iGoogle; how to use Google documents for word processing, presentations and spreadsheets; how to share and collaborate on those documents with others; how to find and upload videos using You Tube, and many other capabilities.



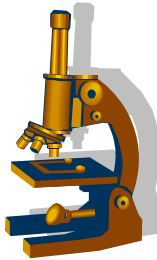
Maximum participants: 30. Note: we'll meet only during the first 5 weeks.

THURSDAY 9:30-11:30

MIND BOGGLING TECHNOLOGY

Coordinators: Bob Long and Mike Glass

We will review and discuss new discoveries and developments and perhaps trends in medical technology, robotics, artificial intelligence, nanotechnology, military technology, virtual reality and digital communication. Anything new and different in the technology realm is fair game! This is a fast changing world and technology is responsible for many of the changes. Class participation in presentations is encouraged. If you have a favorite new technology or trend subject, let's hear about it.



ROBERT E. LEE & THE CONFEDERATE STATES OF AMERICA

Coordinators: Tom Gavigan and Sue Harty

Join us for a look into life, government, politics, slavery, secession and wartime in the Confederacy. We will discuss the lives and times of an array of contemporaries from Robert E. Lee to Mary Chesnut. We will also delve into the causes of disunion and the aftermath of the rebellion. (This study group is a repeat of the one presented in the spring and is primarily for those who were then on the waiting list. It is open to all, but priority will be given to those wait listed last time.)



THURSDAY 9:30-11:30

BRING YOUR TRAVEL PHOTOS TO LIFE

Coordinators: Bob Miller and Lori Kandl

Learn how get your photos and videos off the computer or out of the shoebox and into a presentation that won't put your friends to sleep. Beginning with some basics of preparing your images (including scanning and editing), the first few weeks' presenters will describe several alternative methods, including PhotoStory3, PowerPoint, Picasa, Photodex pan and zoom and simple transfer to disk. In following sessions, the coordinators and class members will "volunteer" to show a favorite city or region. Attendees should be computer literate and already have images on a computer. **Maximum participants: 30; minimum: 10.**



THURSDAY 1:00-3:00

LYRIC OPERA OF CHICAGO SEASON

Coordinator: Jack McKee

The eight operas of the Lyric's 2011-2012 season will be presented in lecture format with audio highlights. The Tales of Hoffmann, Lucia di Lammermoor, Boris Godunov, Ariadne auf Naxos, The Magic Flute, Aida, Show Boat and Rinaldo—each opera will be discussed by a member of Lyric's award-winning Education Corps. **Note: we will not meet the first week of the fall schedule. Also note: at the initial session, each participant will submit a \$20 check payable to Lyric Opera Education Dept.**



JAZZ: AN UNHURRIED EXPLORATION

Coordinators: Joe Maladra and Steve Wolf

This is a continuation of the winter, spring and summer study groups on this uniquely American music genre. Its origins derived from key elements of our culture and history. Its development followed the evolution of our society in the 20th century. It embraces a wide range of styles, with something for everyone. We will use elements from the Ken Burns Jazz video series along with presentations and audio/video selections. We will continue to follow the chronology of jazz history but we'll also take side trips on selected topics including revivals of earlier eras. **Minimum participants: 15.**



WORLD KALEIDOSCOPE

Coordinators: Edie Abajian, Earl Arnold and Joan Brody

To stimulate thought and encourage lively discussion on some of the major issues of the day, members of this study group will view videos of cultural, environmental, and political topics presented by leading journalists and news organizations from around the world. **Minimum participants: 20. Note: we will not meet the first two weeks.**



THURSDAY 1:00-3:30

CINEMA ACROSS THE GLOBE

Coordinators: Judith Ross, Cathy Jensen and Kathie Newsted



Travel the world with Judith, Cathy and Kathie as your movie tour guides. Observe lifestyles and situations that are both different, yet similar to our own, as we watch films from around the world. Each week a subtitled film will be viewed, analyzed and discussed. Don't delay: book your World Cinema adventure today. **Note longer time period. Minimum participants: 6.**

FRIDAY 9:30-11:30

A POTPOURRI OF PSYCHOLOGICAL TOPICS

Coordinators: Marlene Brusko, Joan Reisen, Harry Trumfio and Gloria Kinney

Our wide ranging topics include the psychology of religion, the virtues and vices of conformity, mass communication and propaganda, how to achieve happiness and many more. With PowerPoint presentations, short videos and discussion, we will strive to inform and perhaps even entertain. This is a repeat of the spring study group. Spring wait-listed people will have priority, but others can also register for any open spots.

SPANISH FOR BEGINNERS AND TRAVELERS

Coordinator: Alfredo Rodriguez

Is there a trip to a Spanish-speaking country in your future? Learning the basics about Spanish would enhance your travel experience. Are you interested in the rich Spanish and Hispanic culture? Are you curious about Spanish words and phrases we see and hear? We'll cover basic vocabulary and the pronunciation of common words and phrases. We'll sample aspects of culture including music, art and architecture, and we'll explore interesting travel destinations. **Maximum participants: 12; minimum: 3. Note: this is a continuation of the summer study group; we will meet the first 5 weeks only.**



THE WORLD'S GREATEST PAINTINGS

Coordinator: Bob Masterson

Great paintings challenge us to understand them, penetrate their mysteries and appreciate their riches. But in the vast history of art, only a small number transcend the traditional role of art to become cultural signifiers—works that allow us to comprehend more deeply the world and our place in it. We will explore many works of art we are already familiar with from past study groups, and we will meet many new ones. Our guide for this course will again be Professor Bill Kloss. **Note: this course will meet in weeks 2 thru 9 of the fall session. It will continue into weeks 1 thru 4 of the winter 2012 session.**





REGISTRATION: FALL 2011 STUDY GROUPS



F = Fee/cost involved

L = Limited # of registrants

MONDAY 9:00-11:30

1 John and Abigail Adams

MONDAY 9:30-11:30

2 Practical Probability **L**
3 Buddhism and Christianity

MONDAY 1:00-3:00

4 Drawing Workshop
5 A Woman's Place **L**

TUESDAY 9:00-11:30

6 Classic Films

TUESDAY 9:30-11:30

7 Religious Wars
8 Oriental Brush Painting **F**

TUESDAY 1:00-3:00

9 Who Wrote The Who Done Its
10 Geology of America
11 Brooks/Brooks
12 Shakespeare's Lesser Known
Plays **F L**

WEDNESDAY 9:30-11:30

13 Current Events
14 History of The Supreme Court

WEDNESDAY 9:30-12:00

15 Silents Please! **L**

WEDNESDAY 1:00-3:00

16 Meet Our Neighbor To The North
17 Great Literature
18 Amazing Things With Google **L**

THURSDAY 9:30-11:30

19 Mind Boggling Technology
20 Robert E. Lee and Confederacy
21 Bring Your Travel Photos to Life **L**

THURSDAY 1:00-3:00

22 Lyric Opera Lectures **F**
23 Jazz: An Unhurried Exploration
24 World Kaleidoscope

THURSDAY 1:00-3:30

25 Cinema Across the Globe

FRIDAY 9:30-11:30

26 Potpourri of Psychological Topics
27 Spanish For Beginners/Travelers **L**
28 World's Greatest Paintings

PLEASE NOTE:

For mail or walk-in

*registration, circle the number(s)
of your choice(s), print your
name below and submit this
page only to the ICLRU Center*

(PLEASE PRINT NAME)

