STUDY GROUPS

Study groups offer the opportunity to investigate a topic in depth with like-minded peers. You may work independently outside the group; you may lead the group; or anything in between. Study groups are your connection to studying what you most enjoy with people who share your enthusiasm. The groups meet at Bradley University and many other locations throughout our community.

Study groups are categorized by the anticipated level of member participation as described below:

- **Discussion-based**: participants may be asked to read material and participate in whole group discussions
- **Participation-based**: participants may be asked to read material, participate in small group breakouts/discussions, do research, and/or make brief oral reports
- **Practice-based**: participants may be asked to learn a skill set and engage in practice between sessions

**DISCUSSION-BASED**

1. **The Happiness Hypothesis: Finding Modern Truth in Ancient Wisdom**
   - Mondays, January 14 – February 18
   - 8:30 – 10:45 a.m.
   - Peoria Next Innovation Center
   - Minimum 8 participants, register by December 31
   - Start your week off on a happy note! This study group was suggested by an OLLI member who was interested in keeping alive the current dialogue that has developed from many new books focused on life satisfaction and happiness. We will read *The Happiness Hypothesis: Finding Modern Truths in Ancient Wisdom* by psychologist Jonathan Haidt, available at local and online retailers and libraries. Haidt describes ideas that dominated a civilization or epoch then explores the idea in light of what we now know from scientific research. Is the truth in the idea borne out? Does each idea still have relevance to our modern lives and human flourishing? We’ll have the chance to incorporate even more recent scientific knowledge into a comprehensive exploration of these ideas. Participants should be prepared to read the book, and must have an email address and access to the internet.
   - $45 – facilitated by Marjorie Getz, a professor of arts and sciences at Methodist College. (RF/NG)

2. **The Great American Read: Featuring The Catcher in the Rye and A Separate Peace**
   - Tuesdays, January 15 – February 12
   - 1:30 – 4:00 p.m.
   - Peoria Next Innovation Center
   - Minimum 8 participants, register by January 2
   - The Great American Read explores and celebrates the power of reading through a list of 100 best-loved novels. We will share our favorite titles from the list and discuss how a novel becomes a “favorite.” We will also discuss our featured books, each of which was released in the 1950s. Both became staples of high school curricula, but *The Catcher in the Rye* achieved even loftier status as a “banned book.” These novels invite comparison and contrast: *The Catcher in the Rye* was more widely read, but is it better than *A Separate Peace*, which has been characterized as “an altogether gentler, more quietly brilliant book”? We may have disagreed as sixteen year olds, but will we now? Bring your opinions, and let’s talk. Participants must acquire and read both books, available at local and online retailers and libraries, and must have an email address and access to the internet.
   - $45 – facilitated by Murv Pretorius, retired attorney, and Roberta Koscielski, deputy director, Peoria Public Library. (RFs/NG)

3. **Revisiting Eyes on the Prize**
   - Tuesdays, January 15 – February 19
   - 9:00 – 11:15 a.m.
   - Peoria Next Innovation Center
   - Minimum 6 participants, register by January 2
   - Join us for viewing and discussing segments of *Eyes on the Prize*, the award-winning documentary series that aired on PBS in the late 1980s and early 1990s. Each week we will watch one of the six episodes from the initial 1987 series, discuss the 1954-65 period, and explore the programs in the context of when they aired and today. Group facilitators Kurt and Keith Butterfield (yes, they’re brothers) will lead the discussions. Participants will need an email address and access to the internet.
   - $45 – facilitated by Kurt Butterfield and Keith Butterfield, both Caterpillar retirees and frequent OLLI volunteers. (RFs/NG)

Dan Callahan and Tim Hartneck lead OLLI members while they visit the Moss-Bradley Neighborhood during OLLI’s annual garden walk.
4. Earth, Wind, Water, and Waste – Environmental Sustainability
Wednesdays, January 16 – February 20
1:30 – 3:45 p.m.
Peoria Next Innovation Center
Minimum 5 participants, register by January 2
In this group, participants will discuss environmental sustainability, focusing on the human impacts on the environment and ways to use and preserve the environment. We will look at water, land, air, waste, and energy, exploring how each interacts and interconnects. Participants will read several essays and articles to enhance the discussions each week; the required books are For the Health of the Land by Aldo Leopold and Our Once and Future Planet by Paddy Woodworth, both available at local and online retailers and libraries. These additional books, although not required, may also be of interest to participants: A Sand County Almanac by Aldo Leopold and Environmental Ethics – An Introduction to Environmental Philosophy by Joseph R. DesJardins. Participants should be prepared to read the required books, and must have an email address and access to the internet. $45 – facilitated by Jason Haupt, an energy and environmental stewardship educator for the University of Illinois Extension Service. (NF/NG)

5. Immigration to the USA: A Study of the Historical, Political, Legal, Economic, Moral, and National Identity Issues
Thursdays, January 17 – February 7
10:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.
Goodwill Commons
Minimum 12 participants, register by January 3
There are approximately 11 million people living in our country who are non-citizens, sometimes called “undocumented persons” and sometimes labeled “illegal criminal aliens.” What policies should apply to them? Participants will take a deep dive into these complex issues with open minds, using a fact-based approach, while maintaining mutual respect for differing opinions. We will look at how we have dealt with immigrants in the past and consider the current thinking. As another source of insight, participants will be invited to share what they know of their own ancestors’ coming-to-America story. Participants are expected to acquire and read American Immigration by David A. Gerber (available at local and online retailers and libraries), and must have an email address and access to the internet. $45 – facilitated by Jason Haupt, an energy and environmental stewardship educator for the University of Illinois Extension Service. (NF/NG)

6. Scribe to Screen: Animal Farm
Fridays, January 18 – February 15
9:30 – 11:45 a.m.
Peoria Next Innovation Center
Minimum 6 participants, register by January 4
George Orwell wrote Animal Farm as a fable to warn of the dangers presented by totalitarianism and how it evolved from the Russian Revolution through Lenin, Trotsky, and finally to the cruel Stalin. By viewing the film and reading the novel, we will look at ways the animals and humans of Animal Farm represented real-life counterparts and how the novel’s warnings are still relevant today. Participants will be asked to acquire and read Animal Farm (available at local and online retailers and libraries), and must have an email address and access to the internet. $45 – facilitated by Don Samford, Peoria Area World Affairs Council education outreach chair and retired social studies teacher. (RF/NG)

7. The Forgotten Fifteenth Air Force in World War II
Tuesdays, January 22 – February 12
9:00 – 11:15 a.m.
Peoria Next Innovation Center
Minimum 10 participants, register by January 24
The Fifteenth Air Force is called “the forgotten Fifteenth” because it was based in Italy, far from the war correspondents in England with the Eighth Air Force. While the Eighth got the press, the Fifteenth won the war. Crossing the Alps, the aircraft of the Fifteenth headed straight for the Nazi oil fields – the most furiously guarded targets of the Third Reich. Through seemingly impenetrable flak and anti-aircraft fire, they dismantled the German war machine. In this group, participants will learn the fascinating history of these young men and how they managed to do the near impossible. Participants are expected to acquire and read The Forgotten Fifteenth (available at local and online retailers and libraries), and must have an email address and access to the internet. $45 – facilitated by David Jackson and Sarah Allen, private pilots and co-owners of A&J Aero Service. (RF/NG)

8. The Art of the Cocktail
Wednesdays, February 6 – 27
1:30 – 3:45 p.m.
Hearth Restaurant
Minimum 8 participants, register by January 23
This study group is for all levels of cocktail lovers, especially those who are intrigued by the creativity of mixology. We will study cocktails that you know (and don’t know) and demonstrate how the classics can be easily modified into modern cocktails that are great for entertaining others or enjoying on your own. We will review the history of cocktails, both pre-Prohibition and post-Prohibition, and identify the barware, books, and spirits that any home bar should contain. Of course, we will shake, stir, and taste test together along the way and discuss what appeals to you and why. Our goal is ultimately to freshen your approach to the cocktail hour for you and friends. Participants should have email addresses and access to the internet. Cheers! $55 – facilitated by Tim Bertschy, retired as managing partner for Heyl Royster Voelker and Allen PC. (NF/NG)
9. Marilynne Robinson’s Balm in *Gilead*
*Thursdays, February 7 – 28*
1:00 – 3:15 p.m.
**Humana Guidance Center**
**Minimum 10 participants, register by January 24**
Among the brilliant Pulitzer Prize winning offerings that American (and Iowan) novelist and essayist, Marilynne Robinson, has given us are two short, closely related love stories: *Gilead* and *Home*. Each tells beautifully, sometimes achingly, of small town families’ joys and disappointments, set against the fragile wisdom of old age. Participants are expected to read and acquire both books, available locally and online from retailers and libraries, and must have email addresses and access to the internet. $45 – facilitated by Jane Hense, retired teacher, school administrator, and OLLI vice president. (RF/NG)

**PARTICIPATION-BASED**

10. 3-D Printing
*Tuesdays, January 15 – February 5*
1:00 – 3:15 p.m.
**River City Labs**
**Minimum 6 participants, register by January 2**
3-D printing is often referred to as the “next industrial revolution.” While the idea of printing your own consumer goods on demand is certainly exciting, there are many questions that relate to this technology: ownership and copyright, accessibility, technical issues, and cost. In this study group, participants will evaluate this technology and have an opportunity make their own 3-D prints. Participants must have email addresses and access to the internet.
$45 – facilitated by Fred Bliss, retired Caterpillar electrical engineer. (RF/NG)

11. Inventions that Changed Our World
*Thursdays, January 17 – February 21*
9:00 – 11:15 a.m.
**Peoria Next Innovation Center**
**Minimum 8 participants, register by January 3**
History is made not only by kings, queens, and presidents, but equally by inventors and the technological powers they unleash. This study group explores inventions that have changed the world – from prehistoric times into the 21st century. Along with recounting famous inventions such as the steam engine, airplane, atomic bomb, and computer chip, these lectures explore a number of surprising innovations. Participants will be required to view 1.5-hour videos at home between sessions, and must have email addresses and access to the internet.
$45 – facilitated by Bob Yonker and Dave Allan, Caterpillar retirees and frequent OLLI volunteers. (RF/NF/NG)

**PRACTICE-BASED**

12. Beginning Bridge IV
*Mondays, January 14 – February 25*
1:30 – 3:45 p.m.
**Peoria Next Innovation Center**
**Minimum 8 participants, register by December 31**
Bridge is an excellent way to stimulate your mind in a social environment. Facilitator Chuck Young is back this season to lead Beginning Bridge IV, which will focus on major and minor suit opening bids and responses. He will also cover weak two-bid openings and responses and the strong two-club openings and responses. The Stayman Convention, Blackwood Convention, and transfer bids will also be demonstrated. Participants will play four hands during each session, illustrating the material covered. *Commonly Used Conventions*, a book by nationally known authors Audrey Grant and Betty Starcik, will be included in your fee.
$55 – facilitated by Chuck Young, bridge teacher certified by the American Contract Bridge League. (RF/NG)

*Tuesdays, January 15 – February 19*
10:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.
**Goodwill Commons**
**Minimum 4 participants, register by January 2**
Many of us have taken pictures of vacations, graduations, and family reunions, but we often let them linger in a box (or on our phones). Wouldn’t it be wonderful to pull your pictures and videos together to share with your families for years to come? In this study group, participants will learn video and still picture shooting and editing skills for their home videos, which can be uploaded to social media or kept on DVDs. No technology required for this group, which will focus purely on technique. Participants must have email addresses and access to the internet.
$45 – facilitated by Tom McIntyre, who worked for 48 years in the Peoria area as a TV/radio reporter, photographer, and anchor. (NF/NG)