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.

- **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. **Cycling for a Lifetime**
   Tuesdays, September 5 – September 26
   10:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.
   Bushwhacker
   Minimum 8; register by Tuesday, August 22
   Bicycling is the perfect activity for all ages. It offers the freedom to explore the world or just to pedal down to the local coffee shop. In this study group, we will briefly review the history of bicycling, the various types of bicycles and how they are used, and the types of cyclists. We will determine what kind of cyclist you are and which type of bike might fit your needs. We will also consider the health and environmental benefits of cycling, look at maps and pictures of the various cycling routes in the area, and discuss basic maintenance, safety, and local organizations that support and promote cycling. Participants will take a ride on the Peoria Park District Rock Island Greenway Trail adjacent to Bushwhacker and receive online resources for reference and future rides.
   $45 – facilitated by Robert Woo from Bushwhacker. (NF/NG)

2. **20th Century Power First Ladies: Wilson, Roosevelt, Reagan, and Clinton**
   Thursdays, September 7 – October 5
   10:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.
   Peoria NEXT Innovation Center
   Minimum 10; register by Thursday, August 24
   Today, the role of First Lady is about more than style, White House decor, and inaugural gowns. Historians and journalists are now revealing the influence and power presidential spouses have had on major political decisions of their chief executive husbands. Participants in this group will consider the status of First Lady since the days of Martha Washington, and learn more about the “power” First Ladies who have contributed significantly to the evolution of that role in the 20th century. Randy Wilson, study group category coordinator, will lead the discussion on Edith Wilson and Eleanor Roosevelt. John Morris, President and CEO of the Peoria Riverfront Museum, will facilitate discussion on Nancy Reagan, and journalist Terry Bibo Knight will lead the discussion on Hillary Clinton. Participants will need internet and email access to read articles and view links.
   $45 – facilitated by the volunteers as noted above. (RF/NG)

3. **The Teachings of Jesus of Nazareth in the Gospel of Matthew**
   Mondays, September 11 – October 16
   1:00 – 3:15 p.m.
   Peoria NEXT Innovation Center
   Minimum 10; register by Monday, August 28
   The Book of Matthew is the most widely read and cited of the four gospels. From the first century, it has commanded special prestige and has been called “the great gospel” because its teachings of Jesus of Nazareth are more extensive than any other. The focus of this class will be a thorough review of those original teachings.
   $45 – facilitated by Ted Wolgamot, a former Catholic priest who holds a master’s degree in Sacred Theology and a doctorate in Clinical Psychology. (RF/NG)

4. **Scribe to Screen: One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest**
   Mondays, 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. (September 11); 1:30 – 3:45 p.m. (September 18, 25, & October 2)
   Peoria Public Library – North Branch
   Minimum 10; register by Monday, August 28
   Only three films have ever won all five major Oscar categories in the same year; one was the 1975 classic One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest, starring Jack Nicholson as Randle McMurphy and Louise Fletcher as the evil Nurse Ratched. Adapted from Ken Kesey’s acclaimed and controversial novel, the movie is considered one of the greatest films ever made. Time described the book as “one of the best English-language novels” written before 2005. As participants discuss the similarities and differences between book and film, they will also consider the impact of psychiatric institutionalization on the human mind and spirit. Participants should read the novel, available at local or online retailers and libraries.
   $45 – facilitated by Jane Hense, study group committee chairperson, and Barb Ekstrum, retired nurse and study group committee member. (RF & NF/NG)

5. **Terrorism in America a Hundred Years Ago**
   Tuesdays, September 12 – October 10
   9:30 – 11:45 a.m.
   UnityPoint Health - Methodist North
   Minimum 8; register by Tuesday, August 29
   Terrorism is not new in America. In fact, in the late 1800s and early 1900s, several outbursts of terrorist activity occurred. In this group, we will discuss anarchism, communism, and other movements that advocated
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STUDY GROUPS

6. Modern Death
Thursdays, October 5 – October 26
9:30 – 11:45 a.m.
Peoria NEXT Innovation Center
Minimum 10; register by Thursday, September 21
Aided by medical and hospice professionals who deal with issues of death and dying, this group will consider questions about this always present, but often painful and difficult, topic. How have modern technology and medical advances affected our view of death? How can the concepts of hospice and palliative care provide for a “good death”? What place, if any, do euthanasia and assisted suicide have in this conversation? How do we most humanely treat our dying? And what about the caregivers and family? These and other topics will be considered as we seek to deal with an issue affecting us all. Participants will be asked to acquire and read The American Book of Living and Dying, by Richard F. Groves and Henriette Anne Klauser, available at local or online retailers and libraries.
$45 – facilitated by J. Peter Ault, retired judge. (NF/NG)

7. Autumn Baseball: Greatest World Series Games Ever
Mondays, October 9 – November 6
10:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.
Peoria NEXT Innovation Center
Minimum 10; register by Monday, September 25
Since 1903, the American and National League champions have squared off to determine the best team in baseball. During its long tenure, the World Series has featured many legendary individual games. In this study group, participants will learn about the history of the fall classic many legendary individual games. In this study group, participants will learn about the history of the fall classic as well as focus on four memorable games. We’ll consider 1975’s tussle between Boston and Cincinnati, the St. Louis Cardinals’ extra-inning victory over Texas in 2011, the final game in 1960 when the Pirates beat the mighty Yankees, and the unforgettable 2016 struggle between the Cubs and the Indians. Participants will need email and internet access to read articles and view links.
$45 – facilitated by the following baseball fans: Tim Bailey, Caterpillar Inc. retiree; Keith Butterfield, curriculum chairperson; Kurt Butterfield, study group category coordinator; and Michelle Riggio, OLLI director. (RF/NG)

8. World War II in the Philippines: The Battle of Corregidor and the Bataan Death March
Thursdays, October 12 – November 2
10:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.
Peoria NEXT Innovation Center
Minimum 10; register by Thursday, September 28
Within hours of the bombing of Pearl Harbor in December 1941, Japan also attacked the Philippine Islands, which were guarded by U.S. forces but could not be reinforced once the war began. The result was one of the worst defeats in U.S. history, culminating in the infamous Bataan Death March. Participants in this study group will learn about the historical context of American involvement in the Western Pacific, reasons for the defeat of American-Filipino forces at Bataan and Corregidor in 1942, and the subsequent ordeal of those taken prisoner by the Japanese, including soldiers, nurses and civilians. Participants will need email and internet access to read information and view clips.
$45 – facilitated by David Thompson, history professor, Illinois Central College, and Barb Ekstrum, retired nurse and study group committee member. (RF&NF/NG)

9. Mental Health Issues and Their Impact On Our Lives
Mondays, October 16 – November 6
10:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.
Peoria Public Library, North Branch
Minimum 12; register by Monday, October 2
In this study group, we will explore the challenges of mental health diagnosis and treatment and the associated care needs in a community. Presenters will share information about both private and community-based resources in the Peoria-area. They will also review the legal procedures for voluntary and involuntary hospitalization and the difficulties associated with homelessness, inadequate funding, scarce hospital resources, and prison overcrowding. Readings will be provided as handouts.
$45 – facilitated by Pamela Shuck-Hoehne, licensed clinical professional counselor. (NF/NG)

10. 1967: The Year American Movies Changed Forever
Tuesdays, October 17 – November 14
10:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.
Peoria NEXT Innovation Center
Minimum 10; register by Tuesday, October 3
In 1967, American film began to change dramatically. The cinema of sentiment, focused on romance, happy endings, and good versus evil so popular in the glory days of the Old Hollywood, evolved into the cinema of sensation, featuring tough-minded characters and realistic issues so characteristic of the “new” Hollywood of today. Gary Nelson and Randy Wilson will help help participants understand what that change has meant for movie audiences over the last fifty years, through discussion of films such as In the Heat of the
PARTICIPATION-BASED

11. Understanding Combat PTSD
Fridays, October 20 – November 10
9:30 – 11:45 a.m.
Peoria NEXT Innovation Center
Minimum 8; register by Friday, October 6
A significant number of Vietnam veterans struggle with Combat Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). In this group, participants will learn the history of combat PTSD before and after Vietnam. We’ll discuss what the military is doing to address this syndrome, along with what treatments have been found to be helpful for our veterans. Guest speakers have been invited to attend, including a counselor from the Peoria Vet Center. Participants must have internet access in order to view short films and complete readings. War veterans are especially encouraged to register as both learners and the voices of experience. $45 – facilitated by Gary Nelson and Randy Wilson, OLLI study group committee members. (RF/NG)

12. Project Mercury
Tuesdays, September 5 – October 10
9:00 – 11:15 a.m.
Lutheran Hillside Village
Minimum 6; register by Tuesday, August 22
Project Mercury was the first human spaceflight program of the United States, running from 1958 to 1963. An early highlight of the “Space Race,” its goal was to put a man into Earth orbit and return him safely – ideally before the Soviet Union did so. In this group, we will review the technical, political, and cultural issues surrounding Project Mercury, focusing on how things were done, rather than what happened. Participants are asked to obtain and read This New Ocean: A History of Project Mercury, available through the Government Printing Office, as well as local or online retailers and libraries. $45 – facilitated by Mark Golden, instructor in the math, science, and engineering department at Illinois Central College. (RF/NG)

13. Experiencing Hubble: Understanding the Greatest Images of the Universe
Mondays, October 9 – October 30
2:00 – 4:15 p.m.
Peoria NEXT Innovation Center
Minimum 8; register by Monday, September 25
The Hubble Space Telescope’s location high above the blurring effects of the atmosphere gives it an unrivaled vantage point for investigating phenomena throughout the cosmos: comet crashes, star births, warped space, deep time, and more. We will marvel at landmark images from the Hubble and better understand astronomy’s latest and greatest discoveries in this visual feast using digital links to the Great Courses lectures by Professor David M. Meyer of Northwestern University. Participants will need internet and email access in order to view the lectures and discussion questions. $45 – facilitated by Diane Rock, retired marketing professional and Bob Yonker, study group category coordinator. (NF&RF/NG)

14. The Craft of Craft Beer
Tuesdays, October 17 – November 7
2:00 – 4:15 p.m.
Obed & Isaac’s
Minimum 8; register by Tuesday, October 3
If you’re a beer lover, this study group is for you! We’ll meet at Obed & Isaac’s Microbrewery and Eatery (located in the historic Peoria Cornerstone Building) as owner Court Conn and his brewmaster sons facilitate this fascinating group on craft beer. We’ll discuss what you need to do to craft your own beer, talk about the use of local water, the phases of production, and how to achieve the final result – beer to enjoy with family and friends. We may also have an opportunity to taste the results of beer (and possibly cider) in various stages of the brewing process. Participants are asked to obtain and read either Beer for Dummies (second edition), or Homebrewing for Dummies, (second edition), both available at local or online retailers and libraries. $45 – facilitated by Court Conn, owner, Obed & Isaac’s Microbrewery and Eatery. (NF/NG)

15. More Great Irish Stories and a Pint on the Side if You Like
Tuesdays, October 17 – November 21
2:00 – 4:15 p.m.
W.E. Sullivan’s
Minimum 10; register by Tuesday, October 3
The Guardian, a British newspaper, once reported that “every sentence William Trevor wrote was perfectly crafted, yet he had a love of storytelling: his first loyalty was always to the reader’s desire to find out what was going to happen next.” The late Irish writer’s stories
have also been described as chiseled, lyrical, ironic, and elegiac. In this group, participants will read and discuss stories from *William Trevor: The Collected Stories*, available at local or online retailers and libraries. The pint? Well, the stories are Irish, and we’re meeting at a pub in Peoria Heights, but that’s up to you! $45 – facilitated by Jane Hense, study group chairperson, and Murv Pretorius, retired attorney. (RF/NG)

16. Tian Xia - How the Past Helps Shape China’s View of its Place in the World
Mondays, October 23 – November 20
10:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.
Peoria NEXT Innovation Center
Minimum 8; register by Monday, October 9
Disputes over the South China Sea with North Korea, as well as the globalization of trade, have helped China gain greater prominence in world politics today. To understand how China views its role now, we need to understand its long history. Using the book *Everything Under the Heavens: How the Past Helps Shape China’s Push for Global Power* (available at local or online retailers and libraries), we’ll become more acquainted with the view of a single emperor ruling “civilized” China and its “barbarian” neighbors in Asia, the impact of Western colonization on the country, and how post-World War II events put China on the path to global power.
$45 – facilitated by Kurt Butterfield, Caterpillar Inc. retiree and study group category coordinator. (RF/NG)

17. Scrooge in Scriptures
Fridays, November 10 – December 8 (skip 11/24)
9:30 – 11:45 a.m.
Peoria NEXT Innovation Center
Minimum 8; register by Friday, November 3
Just in time for the holiday season, participants in this study group will discuss how the writings of Charles Dickens can be related to life in the modern world. Using the book *A Christmas Carol with a Four-Week Bible Study for Advent* (available at local or online retailers and libraries), we will discuss how the Dickens classic tale can be compared and contrasted to scripture.
$45 – facilitated by Avril Bass, retired minister and OSF chaplain. (RF/NG)

18. Readers’ Theatre: Prose and Cons
Thursdays, September 21 – October 26
10:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.
Heartis Senior Living Village
Minimum 7; register Thursday, September 7
Love, sorrow, regret, loneliness for family, hatred for others’ deeds – these are some of the thoughts and emotions of men and women who participate in writing groups at the Douglas County Correctional Center in Lawrence, Kansas. This study group will give voice to those inmates who took a wrong turn in life and are now paying the price. Participants will help compile the script from poems and prose written by prisoners and will perform in a readers’ theater production for audiences as schedules allow.
$45 – facilitated by Bettsey Barhorst, retired community college president and speech professor, and assisted by study group host coordinator Calista Reed. (RF/NG)

19. iPhone 101 with Bradley University Fellows
Thursdays, October 12 – November 2
2:00 – 4:15 p.m.
Peoria NEXT Innovation Center
Minimum 8; register by Thursday, September 28
Do you often ask your children or grandchildren for tips on using your iPhone? Do you wonder what you’re missing by not fully utilizing the functions on that phone? Here’s your chance to tap into the knowledge from Bradley University Fellows, undergraduate students who seek to improve their leadership skills and civic responsibility through volunteering! Facilitated by Fellow Sam Kuhlmeier, this group will help you keep up with the younger generation and get the most out of your iPhone. Assisted by several other Fellows, Sam will demonstrate how to take pictures and video, navigate your screen, create a contact list, send and receive calls, set up email, download apps, and more. The only pre-requisite is owning an iPhone!
$45 – facilitated by Bradley Fellow Sam Kuhlmeier and assisted by Bob Yonker, study group category coordinator. (NF&RF/NG)

20. Facing the Blank Page
Fridays, October 13 – November 17
10:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.
Goodwill Commons
Minimum 10; register by Friday, September 29
Calling all writers: this study group is designed to feed your ambitions and enthusiasm for getting words on paper. Come ready to be inspired and produce short pieces or selections from longer pieces for targeted peer evaluation and group sharing. We will write from prompts (optional) to generate fresh ideas and to tap into favorite memories and creative stories. Seasoned writers, are you ready to begin again? Beginners, do you want to see if writing is right for you? Come to this study group and find out! Participants will read and discuss *Bird by Bird* by Anne Lamott, available at local or online retailers and libraries.
$45 – facilitated by Gary Nelson, retired attorney, and Jane Hense, study group chairperson. (RF/NG)