

# Wintersession 2024



Lifelong Learning  
COLLABORATIVE

## MONDAY MORNINGS

Monday mornings  
Zoom Videoconference  
10:00 AM-12:00 PM  
8 weeks  
Jan 8-Feb 26  
Fee: \$35  
Class size limit: 20

### Open Studio Art Coordinator: Susan Van Horne

Are you an artist (or budding artist) who enjoys learning from others and wants to keep improving this winter? Please join us for a casual meeting of artists who will independently pursue the paper/canvas medium of their choice using acrylics, oils, watercolor, pastel or by drawing. There will be no instruction, just camaraderie and informal sharing by all.

**Format:** Members will work independently and will submit a photo of their work weekly for Zoom sharing and critique. The class may decide to focus on a painting subject or style each week. This is a Zoom video conferencing class (see box below for more information).

**Resources/Expenses:** No expenses required other than supplies you want to use. The coordinator may help you with additional information about supplies.

**Coordinator:** Susan Van Horne, a retired registered nurse, has been a plein air and studio painter since joining LLC over six years ago. She has co-coordinated and participated in many other LLC courses.

## TUESDAY MORNINGS

Tuesday mornings  
Temple Beth-El  
10:00 AM-12:00 PM  
4 weeks  
Jan 9-Jan 30  
Fee: \$25  
Class size limit: 16

### Armchair Travelers: A Unique Short Story Course Coordinators: Maggie Miles, Nick Miles

Interested in traveling to exotic places without leaving home this winter? Are you keen on learning creative ways to analyze short stories that promote lively discussions that go beyond the traditional answering of questions? Works by well-known short story authors, including Lorrie Moore, William Trevor, and Alice Munro will transport us to Ireland, Scotland, France, Australia, and other appealing destinations.

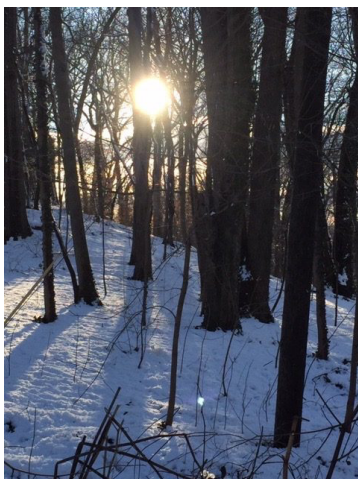
**Format:** We will cover two stories a week from our text, each one led by one or more “traveling companions” in the class. In our first class, the coordinators will model a few non-traditional approaches

for leading a discussion on a story. Bon Voyage!

**Resources/Expenses:** *The Literary Traveler: An Anthology of Contemporary Short Fiction*, edited by Larry Dark, is available in used paperback for \$1.69 and up on Amazon and other online book sellers or at a local library.

**Coordinators:** Nick and Maggie Miles have together, and separately, coordinated a number of LLC classes during the past eight years. Maggie retired as a high school English teacher, and Nick retired from a career in communication and marketing with a number of firms. They share a love for literature and the performing arts, particularly the short story genre.

We're pleased to offer Zoom courses and in-person courses this semester. COVID vaccination is a mandatory requirement for attending in-person classes. By the act of registering for an in-person class you will be attesting to being vaccinated. Masks are optional in the Temple and classrooms, and classrooms will be at less than full capacity. We'll keep current with trends and regulations and may change as needed. Zoom is easy and free to class members. If you have not used Zoom, [click here for a helpful introduction video](#).



**Cover photograph taken by LLC member Susan Baugh. Susan participated in our Cell Phone Photography Club last Wintersession, where club members were assigned to share a photograph from their personal portfolio. She selected this shot (taken in her previous hometown of Sea Cliff, NY), which was also included in our online [Virtual Art Gallery](#). Susan said, “It is one of 23,706 photos in my personal iPhone archive! The Photo Club has done nothing to help me overcome my addiction!” Since joining LLC a year ago, she has taken ten classes.**

We are an independent, not-for-profit collaborative lifelong learning organization in Rhode Island, offering a program of affordable courses that cover a wide gamut of interests; trips and cultural events; as well as the opportunity to volunteer, serve on committees, coordinate a course and otherwise help shape the future of lifelong learning in our area.

Our annual membership is low (\$35 yearly). You must be a member to participate in classes.

Many of our classes fill within the first few days of registration. To avoid disappointment, we suggest that you register early. For quickest service, register online at [www.lifelonglearningcollaborative.org](http://www.lifelonglearningcollaborative.org) or see registration form.

Learn.  
Discover.  
Enjoy.

This is LLC.

**Recording Policy:** LLC does not permit recording of classes due to the resulting inhibition of free and comfortable exchange of ideas and opinions. Any exceptions must be approved by the LLC President.

## TUESDAY MORNINGS

Tuesday mornings

Zoom Videoconference

10:00 AM-12:00 PM

8 weeks

Jan 9-Feb 27

Fee: \$68 includes \$28 (20% discount) FPA's Briefing Book

Class size limit: 20

### 2024 Great Decisions

Coordinators: Dennis Flavin, Dave Hansen

If you want to dig into and better understand the issues that challenge today's world, many with serious implications for the United States, this course is for you! Great Decisions is a national civic education program sponsored by the Foreign Policy Association. This year's class covers eight issues: Mideast Unrest and Realignment, Climate Technology and Competition, Science Across Borders, U.S.-China Trade Rivalry, NATO's Future, Understanding Indonesia, High Seas Treaty and Pandemic Preparedness.

**Format:** Expect a lively, highly collaborative exchange of presentations, opinions, and perspectives. *The 2024 Great Decisions Briefing Book*, which provides a wealth of expert perspectives, background

information, current data, and policy options, serves as a jumping off point for each discussion led by class members. Presentations are encouraged. This is a Zoom video conferencing class (see box on page 2 for more information).

**Resources/Expenses:** Participants will need access to the Internet and will share articles and information drawn from newspapers, journals, books, magazines, and/or news releases with the group by email.

**Coordinators:** Dennis Flavin and Dave Hansen have coordinated many similar courses in the past and love nothing better than a good juicy discussion.

## TUESDAY AFTERNOONS

Tuesday afternoons

Temple Beth-El

1:00-3:00 PM

8 weeks

Jan 9-Feb 27

Fee: \$45

Class size limit: 16

### Medical Milestones: Past and Present

Coordinators: Martha Cussler, Robbie English, Sue Pakula

We're alive! – thanks to good genes, the right zip codes, and medical discoveries that improved life for many around the globe, though not for all. This course will explore events in medical history and innovations in medicines and medical technologies – anesthesia, vaccines, targeted gene therapy, mental health medications to name a few – that have contributed to enhancing human health.

**Format:** Participants will choose a topic from the syllabus or suggest their own and work alone or in pairs to make short presentations to the class. We will discuss two topics per meeting.

**Resources/Expenses:** *Breakthrough* by Jon Queijo is available from Amazon and other used book sites for \$2.21 and up. Coordinators will provide online links to relevant articles and videos.

**Coordinators:** Martha Cussler is a retired educator; Robbie English is a retired medical speech pathologist; Sue Pakula is a retired pediatrician.

Registration opens Monday, December 4 @ 9 AM.

## TUESDAY AFTERNOONS

Tuesday afternoons

Temple Beth-El

1:00-3:00 PM

4 weeks

Jan 9-Jan 30

Fee: \$25

Class size limit: 20

### Cell Phone Camera Club in January: Back to Editing Basics

Coordinators: Ellen Fingeret, Margaret Lawrence, Linda Shamoon

Bring in the new year with friends old and new in LLC's Cell Phone Camera Club. During the first four weeks of the winter semester, we will focus on the basics of editing, such as tuning images, adjusting details, adjusting color, cropping, etc., as well as working with filters and other special effects. We welcome new participants who use their cell phones as their main camera and are ready to explore the many standard and creative functions of photo editing apps (native to the phone and downloaded).

**Format/Requirements:** In each of the four club meetings, we will review specific tools available in an editing app, starting with the more basic whole-picture adjustments and then reviewing area-specific adjustments. **Participants should be familiar with basic cellphone photo-taking functions, with downloading apps, and with emailing photos.** (These skills will not be reviewed.) (Note: If you will be away for a vacation or consistently late due to scheduling conflicts, please do not register for this class.)

**Resources/Expenses:** No expenses, although some photo apps that club members might recommend may involve a fee.

**Coordinators:** Ellen Fingeret, Margaret Lawrence and Linda Shamoon have been enthusiastically coordinating the Cell Phone Photo Club for several semesters.

Tuesday afternoons

Temple Beth-El

1:00-3:00 PM

4 weeks

Feb 6-Feb 27

Fee: \$25

Class size limit: 20

### Cell Phone Camera Club: February's Four

Coordinators: Ellen Fingeret, Margaret Lawrence, Linda Shamoon

Four weeks in February – Four Photo Projects! “My Space, My Place,” “Precious Things,” “Forbidden Fruit,” and “February, RI.” Each week, snap some pics on the theme of the week (indoors or outdoors), choose the two best, and edit them to highlight its story. Share your two best at the next meeting. It's fun, it's social, and we learn editing and photo skills from each other. We welcome new and returning cell phone photo and editing enthusiasts.

**Format/Requirements:** Each week participants are expected to be on hand to share and discuss edited and unedited versions of photos based on that week's theme. **Participants should be familiar with basic cellphone photo functions, with downloading apps, with emailing photos and have a basic command of at least one photo editing app.** (These skills will not be reviewed.) (Note: If you will be away for a vacation or consistently late due to scheduling conflicts, please do not register for this class.)

**Resources/Expenses:** No expenses, although some photo apps that club members might recommend may involve a fee.

**Coordinators:** Ellen Fingeret, Margaret Lawrence and Linda Shamoon have been enthusiastically coordinating the Cell Phone Photo Club for several semesters.

Tuesday afternoons

Temple Beth-El

1:00-3:00 PM

8 weeks

Jan 9-Feb 27

Fee: \$45

Class size limit: 16

### Take a Deep Dive into the Titanic II

Coordinator: Joe Petteruti

**NOTE:** This is the second offering of a highly rated LLC course previously offered by Joe in the Winter 2022 semester.

Join Titanic descendant, Joe Petteruti, in a class that starts off with the story of his grandmother and her terrifying journey on the ill-fated RMS Titanic. It then explores such participant-selected topics as the White Star Line, the ship's construction, its captain and crew, its passengers, the sinking, the rescue of the survivors, and their lives after the event. Joe's grandmother, Bertha Mulvihill, had emigrated from Ireland to the US in 1905, and went back to visit her family in Ireland in 1911. On a lark, she purchased a third-class ticket on the Titanic for her return voyage to Providence. Joe will share the story of Bertha's star-crossed voyage and her escape into Lifeboat 15.

**Format:** In the first class, Joe will speak about his grandmother's experience. In subsequent classes, participants should be prepared to discuss one aspect of the historical journey, or more recent subjects such as the discovery of the shipwreck in 1985 or the 2023 tragedy of the submersible “Titan.” Participants can present their topic by either making a 15–20-minute presentation or showing YouTube video(s). In either case, the participant will lead a class discussion on their topic for the rest of the one-hour segment.

**Resources/Expenses:** Joe's book about his grandmother's experience: *A Night She'd Remember*, is available as an e-book for \$4.99 on both Amazon and Book Baby, and as a paperback for \$22.95 on BookBaby.com or used for less on many online sellers.

**Coordinator:** Joe Petteruti has been a member of LLC for over twelve years. He started writing memoirs about his family members after he took a memoir writing class at LLC.

## TUESDAY LATE AFTERNOONS

Tuesday late afternoons

Temple Beth-El

3:15-5:15 PM

8 weeks

Jan 9-Feb 27

Fee: \$40

Class size limit: 36

### Scrabble Social Club

Coordinators: Tracey Zeckhausen, Sheila Zompa

Do you have fond memories of playing Scrabble in your past? Now is your chance to get back in the game! Join us for a fun time and meet new friends! All levels are welcome.

**Format:** LLC provides game boards and Scrabble dictionaries. Players draw a stick to determine where to sit. This allows us to get to know each other better! You don't need to attend every week, but you do need to register and RSVP each week to participate. Please plan to arrive at 3:00 PM, if possible, to help set up the tables as

we start playing at 3:15. Tracey will be on hand for documentation and rule clarification. Join us afterwards, if you wish, for supper at various nearby local restaurants.

**Resources/Expenses:** We have Scrabble dictionaries on hand for your reference. All other supplies provided. There are no expenses.

**Coordinators:** Tracey Zeckhausen and Sheila Zompa love Scrabble and have previously coordinated the Scrabble Club.



## WEDNESDAY MORNINGS

Wednesday mornings

Temple Beth-El

10:00 AM-12:00 PM

8 weeks

Jan 10-Mar 6 (No class Feb 7)

Fee: \$45

Class size limit: 11

### Fine Art Photography

Coordinator: James Heath

This class will change the way you see... with and without a camera. Unlike most photography classes which are about "how to take better pictures," this class focuses on how to discover and nurture that inner something that nudges you to pick up a camera in the first place. Here you will discover that you are not a photographer but an artist who happens to be using photography as a medium to give you an avenue for expression.

**Format:** Class sessions will include discussions of techniques and points of view, the value of journal writing, finding inspiration from paintings and even music. Unlike typical photography classes which

direct one toward creating an individual image, this class will include individual photos but also will encourage developing a collection or grouping of images based on a theme, location, or a unique narrative. Most photography courses have you shooting and submitting an image for discussion and critique, then leaving you to do with that input what you will, with your next step having already been pre-determined and contained in the course's curriculum. This approach has everyone shooting the same subject. In our class the next assignment will be determined at the end of your image critique. Here you and I and class members will collaborate to create each student's next assignment based on what you were attempting vs. how your image succeeded or fell short, and what then might be the next best steps for you to take.

**Resources/Expenses:** Any camera, any level of experience. No additional expenses.

**Coordinator:** Jim has worked professionally as a photographer and has coordinated or co-coordinated photography courses, as well as short story courses, since shortly after joining LLC in 2014.

Wednesday mornings

Zoom Videoconference

10:00 AM-12:00 PM

10 weeks

Jan 10-Mar 13

Fee: \$40

Class size limit: 15

### Ancient Sicily: History through Art, Architecture and Culture

Coordinators: Linda Guccione, Bob Martin

90 miles from North Africa and 3 miles from Italy, Sicily has always been a crossroads through which Mediterranean trade and numerous conquerors passed. Multiple waves of conquerors and migrants have made and remade Sicily for the past 3,000 years. Phoenicians, Greeks and Romans, Byzantines, Arabs, and Normans especially left their mark. The results are recorded in the people, architecture, artwork, cuisine and agriculture of Sicily today. Because each did not destroy what came before but added to it, a blended style unique to Sicily was created. Our course will reveal the cultural extravaganza of Sicily's history up to 1,200 CE through the physical evidence left behind: glorious cathedrals, palaces, temples, amphitheaters,

statuary, artwork, and food. Rather than telling a tale of battles and kings, we will tell the complex story of Sicily's ancient and medieval history through the cultural legacy of each new wave of Sicilians.

**Format:** Each participant is requested to make a presentation and lead a discussion, choosing from a coordinator supplied list of topics. This is a Zoom video conferencing class (see box on page 2 for more information).

**Resources/Expenses:** There is no textbook. Reading materials and/or videos will be supplied by the coordinators for each week. For research, there is a wealth of information online. The Ocean State Library system has many books on the topic.

**Coordinators:** Linda Guccione and Bob Martin are experienced LLC coordinators. A frequent visitor to Italy and Sicily, Linda has coordinated courses on Italian art and on Etruscan history. Bob has led previous courses on topics such as the Silk Road, the Mongol Empire and the Ottoman Empire, as well as Early Women Artists.

## WEDNESDAY MORNINGS

Wednesday mornings  
Zoom Videoconference  
10:00 AM-12:00 PM  
8 weeks  
Jan 10-Feb 28  
Fee: \$35  
Class size limit: 25

### Charles Darwin: Literary “Influencer” Coordinators: Ruth Levy Guyer, Elizabeth Mosier

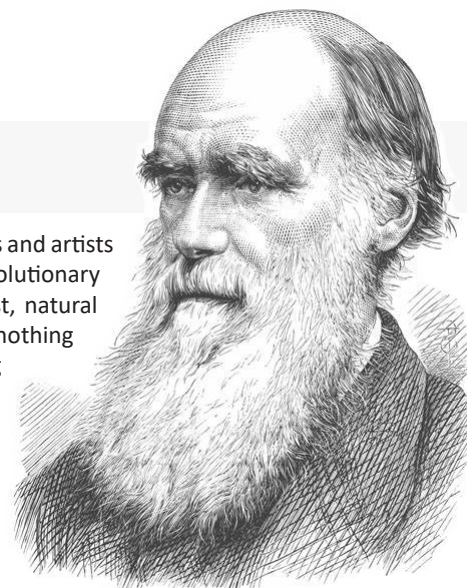
How do the ideas of Charles Darwin influence the way that writers and artists understand and represent human behavior in their work? Evolutionary concepts that seem obvious to us today – survival of the fittest, natural selection, descent with modification – were, in Darwin’s time, nothing short of revolutionary. Through wide-ranging works including fiction, science fiction, cartoons, art, social debates, and essays on natural history, we will consider how Darwinian notions

pervaded the zeitgeist of his century and continue to be influential in contemporary culture today. Participants need not have prior knowledge of Darwin’s ideas.

**Format:** Participants will each prepare a presentation based on the topics listed on the syllabus. This is a Zoom video conferencing class (see box on page 2 for more information).

**Resources/Expenses:** Janet Browne’s *Darwin’s Origin of Species*, Kurt Vonnegut’s *Galapagos* and Cathleen Schine’s *Evolution of Jane* are all available from online sellers for less than \$5.00 total and up used in paperback. Weekly short assignments will include stories, essays, and video clips available online.

**Coordinators:** Ruth Levy Guyer is a medical ethicist, writer, and long-time fan of Darwin. She has taken a range of LLC courses and coordinated courses on medical issues and jazz. Elizabeth Mosier is a novelist and essayist who taught creative writing at Bryn Mawr College. Based in Philadelphia, she has Zoomed in to Providence LLC courses and Brown Bag talks.



## WEDNESDAY AFTERNOONS

Wednesday afternoons  
Private Home in Providence  
1:00-3:00 PM  
9 weeks  
Jan 10-Mar 13 (No class Feb 21)  
Fee: \$20  
Class size limit: 20

### Jewish Style Breads, Bagels, and Rolls Coordinator: Bob Sandy

My father owned a Jewish bakery in Detroit. I worked there through high school and college. Our products were shaped by hand, without preservatives or dough conditioners. In this course, we will also use traditional ingredients to hand make pita, sourdough, “French” bread, kaiser and egg dough rolls, challah, rye and pumpernickel breads, and bagels. My goal: Everyone will be able to make these breads, rolls, and bagels at home. Wear old clothes and an apron. Expect to get messy!

**Format:** We’ll meet at my home in Providence (address provided upon registration). During the first hour, I’ll demonstrate how to mix, proof, shape, and bake a new product. Each week every class member will take home ready-to-bake products that they have assembled. During the second hour, three class members, who have made the previous week’s products from scratch, will bring samples to taste and talk for around fifteen minutes about any problems or improvements.

**Resources/Expenses:** We’ll use some specialized ingredients: medium rye, first clear, and high gluten flours, yeast, malted barley syrup, food grade lye, and toppings for bagels. Each class member will be given five pounds of each type of flour as well as the other ingredients. The cost of these ingredients, which will be distributed during the first session, will be \$30 per class member.

**Coordinator:** Robert Sandy coordinated *Battery Electric Vehicles* and *Concerts and Conversations*. He twice won the Temple Beth-El World Series cooking contest for his pumpernickel bread and his Dobos Torte.

Wednesday afternoons  
Temple Beth-El  
1:00-3:00 PM  
8 weeks  
Jan 10-Feb 28  
Fee: \$45  
Class size limit: 10

### LLC Knits Coordinator: Doris Briggs

Join LLC Knits and make a knitting project such as socks, mittens or a project of your choice. Up for a challenge, try a color work hat, scarf, or cowl. Time will be provided to discuss all projects, if desired. The only requirement is that you know knitting basics.

**Format:** Together we will work on our projects one stitch at a time. Classmates will work on their projects at home, and we will meet weekly for a sit and knit.

**Resources/Expenses:** Expenses will vary based on the cost of materials and supplies.

**Coordinator:** Doris Briggs is a happily retired Registered Nurse who has been knitting for many years. Her interests include knitting samples for a yarn shop, spinning fiber, weaving, and other endeavors. Doris has coordinated all of our previous knitting classes.

**Class calendar available online at [www.lifelonglearningcollaborative.org](http://www.lifelonglearningcollaborative.org).**

## WEDNESDAY AFTERNOONS

### Wednesday afternoons

#### Zoom Videoconference

1:00-3:00 PM

8 weeks

Jan 10-Feb 28

Fee: \$35

Class size limit: 16

### Hot Topics

Coordinators: Hugh Campbell, George Champlin, Lee Golden

Do you enjoy talking with others about news of the day, hearing what they think is important, and why? If so, you'll enjoy Hot Topics. We expect probing and exciting sessions that look at current items in the news. Members of the class take turns selecting a hot topic of the week – one that will stir discussion – and presenting key material to the class. The person presenting the topic gets things rolling with a few questions to stimulate discussion. Don't be surprised if at times the discussions become intense and controversial. Class members should plan to read the *Providence Journal* and either *The New York Times*

or *The Wall Street Journal* – or both – along with other news sources they might want to look into. Any medium will do, paper or electronic, if the topics are timely, and *hot*. Some of the topics presented last session were: Recent bank failures, Artificial Intelligence/ChatGPT, Ethics and the Supreme Court and Politics of the U.S. debt limit.

**Format:** Each week one member of the group will choose one article on a current hot topic. After briefly presenting it to the group, they will pose the questions and lead the discussion. The coordinators will act as moderators of the session and help ensure that all viewpoints are heard. This is a Zoom video conferencing class (see box on page 2 for more information).

**Resources/Expenses:** Participants will need access to Internet and will share articles drawn from newspapers, journals, magazines, and/or news releases with the group by email. No expenses are anticipated.

**Coordinators:** Hugh Campbell, George Champlin and Lee Golden have successfully coordinated this very popular course many times in the past.

## THURSDAY MORNINGS

### Thursday mornings

#### Zoom Videoconference

10:00 AM-12:00 PM

8 weeks

Jan 11-Feb 29

Fee: \$35

Class size limit: 20

### Laughter: A Prescription for Deeply Troubled Times

Coordinators: Eugene Mihaly, Norma Rossi Mead

Have you ever found yourself refreshed after an unexpected laugh? Comedy and tragedy are cohabitants in our lives, our histories and our cultures. We live in times well marked – sometimes overwhelmingly – by tragedy. Yet comedy and the laughter it triggers keep us going, keep our lives on something approaching an even keel. Laughter is a refresher – more, a maintainer of souls. We all need it. This course will explore where laughter comes from, what triggers it, what it means for us as individuals and for the society in which we live. We shall look at what kinds of events or situations bring out smiles and giggles and even guffaws.

**Format:** In this course, each of us will try to answer what has brought and continues to bring laughter into our own lives and what it has meant for us. We shall explore the different kinds of laughter, from the most basic physical humor to highly sophisticated irony and satire. We look to participants to share examples of what makes them really laugh. We'll experience lots of laughs together and learn more about the techniques, the healing effects and the emotional role of humor. This is a Zoom video conferencing class (see box on page 2 for more information).

**Resources/Expenses:** There are no anticipated expenses. Participants will be encouraged to find resources online or in libraries to help understand what makes us laugh.

**Coordinators:** Eugene Mihaly and Norma Rossi Mead have led a number of serious-minded programs for LLC from *Elections 2020* to *How Safe Is Our Safety Net*. These trying times inspired them to try something new – an emphasis on humor. The goal is to encourage all participants to share something that makes them laugh while we all enjoy a comic break.



*We understand that some LLC members may have difficulties with mobility and may use wheelchairs, walkers, or canes. Some members may have difficulty with hearing or vision. Those members should notify the coordinator and arrive early for the first class to discuss what priority seating accommodations can be made.*

## THURSDAY MORNINGS

Thursday mornings

Temple Beth-El

10:00 AM-12:00 PM

6 weeks

Jan 11-Feb 22 (No class Feb 8)

Fee: Free!

Class size limit: 10

### As You Like It: Design and Deliver Your Own LLC Course

Coordinators: Catherine Hurst, Linda Shamoon

**NOTE:** This course is only for LLC members who are thinking about coordinating a course in the summer of 2024 or beyond. It is not intended for those who are planning to coordinate a spring 2024 course.

Have you thought about an idea for an LLC course that you might like to lead (or co-lead)? You'll have the opportunity to explore ideas for a course or to get feedback on a course you already have in mind, as well as to look at techniques for developing that idea into a course of from 3-10 weeks in length. Think outside the box – courses can be short or long, meet weekly or less often, be tours or clubs, in addition

to traditional courses. Or you might want to rethink/reorganize/reposition a course you've coordinated previously. This free, no-obligation, workshop-style course is designed for any LLC member who would like some help/guidance in developing an idea into a full course plan. Along the way we will discuss different ways to run a class; interesting class activities; how to include readings, guest speakers, and field trips; and other possibilities for course development.

**Format:** There will be a mixture of small group discussion, guest speakers, hands-on work sessions, and individual feedback sessions. No formal presentations will be required, but we will ask you to prepare a written assignment ahead of each class (a draft of your course description, course calendar, course format, etc.) and ask you to share these for feedback from the coordinators and the class. Two class meetings will be devoted to individual feedback sessions. Preparing written assignments, sharing the material, and receiving feedback will be a part of every class.

**Coordinators:** Catherine Hurst has coordinated more than ten LLC courses in a variety of content areas, and has served on the LLC Curriculum Committee for the past eight years. Linda Shamoon has co-coordinated over twenty courses including numerous iterations of the popular Concerts and Conversations course, and currently heads the LLC Technology Committee. Both Linda and Cathy have led many LLC Coordinator Orientations and Syllabus Workshops.

## THURSDAY AFTERNOONS

Thursday afternoons

Temple Beth-El

1:00-3:00 PM

8 weeks

Jan 11-Feb 29

Fee: \$45

Class size limit: 16

### Fascist Italy: Growth of Authoritarianism in Europe

Coordinators: Rick Keogh, Bob Schnare

Authoritarian regimes are growing and collaborating around the world today. Leaders of Russia, China, North Korea, Belarus, Italy, and Iran are cooperating and exchanging visits. In the United States, there are candidates with authoritarian tendencies in contention for upcoming elections. We will take a look back at the authoritarian rise of Benito Mussolini from 1922 to 1945 as he was elevated into an all-seeing and knowing god, introducing a generation of fascism, dictatorship, violence, repression, racism, and war – providing a model for Adolf Hitler.

**Format:** Class members will be expected to provide a 10–20-minute presentation, which may utilize a combination of YouTube videos, slides, or PowerPoint, followed by class discussion. Distribution of questions for class discussion prior to each class will be encouraged.

**Resources/Expenses:** Our text will be Richard J.B. Bosworth's, *Mussolini's Italy: Life Under the Fascist Dictatorship, 1915-1945*, available from Amazon, used book vendors like Thrift Books and Abe Books for \$5.84 and up, as well as university libraries and the public library system.

**Coordinators:** Rick Keogh, a retired college librarian, holds undergraduate and graduate degrees in history as well as library science. He has coordinated previous LLC history and film classes. Bob Schnare was the Library Director at the Naval War College.

Thursday afternoons

Temple Beth-El

1:00-3:00 PM

8 weeks

Jan 11-Feb 29

Fee: \$45

Class size limit: 16

### Writing a Memoir

Coordinators: Diana Grady, Ruth Mills

Have you always wanted to write your life's story but never seem to get started? This class is devoted to encouraging you to take those steps. You will have an opportunity to share your stories with your fellow writers. Classmates will provide encouragement and suggestions. Writing a memoir provides a way to save your family stories for those who will someday be grateful that you did. Sharing these stories can help us connect with others who have similar experiences. Finally, memoir writing may have a therapeutic effect as you revisit painful or complicated events from your past.

**Format:** Members are expected to participate in writing and sharing approximately 1,200 words about every other week. Optional writing prompts will be available to those who want them.

**Resources/Expenses:** None.

**Coordinators:** Diana Grady taught English Language Arts for 40 years in the Swansea School System and Writing Enhancement in the Gomes Elementary School in New Bedford. She has participated in the Memoir Class for many semesters. She is the editor of *The Lark* and is a veteran class coordinator at LLC. Ruth Mills has taught English at the high school level and has participated in or co-coordinated the Memoir class for many semesters.

## THURSDAY AFTERNOONS

Thursday afternoons

Temple Beth-El

1:00-3:00 PM

8 weeks

Jan 11-Feb 29

Fee: \$45

Class size limit: 20

### The Best Short Stories of 2023: The O. Henry Prize Winners

Coordinator: Patricia Becker

The short story is a complex form of fiction. Because it is short, it needs to get to the point quickly, taking care with every line, and moving deliberately scene by scene, a string quartet versus a symphony. The stories we will discuss were chosen by Editor Lauren Groff to show some risk in language, structure, or plot, and that may thereby subvert our expectations. We will look for all these aspects of the stories we will discuss.

**Format:** Participants will lead the discussion of a story of their choice and are urged to obtain the text and sign up for a story as soon as possible, as stories will be assigned on a first-come, first-served basis. The presenter for each story will submit discussion questions for online distribution to participants 3-4 days before the presentation date.

**Resources/Expenses:** *The Best Short Stories 2023: The O. Henry Prize Winners*, Anchor Books, edited by Lauren Groff, is available from local bookstores for \$18.00, and \$16.00 from alibris.com, which obtains books from independent book stores. The O. Henry awards are widely regarded as the nation's most prestigious awards for short fiction.

**Coordinator:** Patricia Becker, an Emerita University of Wisconsin-Madison professor, has co-coordinated several previous LLC short story classes.

## FRIDAY MORNINGS

Friday mornings

Zoom Videoconference

10:00-11:00 AM (Note 1 hr length)

8 weeks

Jan 12-Mar 1

Fee: \$80

Class size limit: 18

### Get Fit at Home

Instructor: Adam Stone / Coordinator: Sam Shamoon

**Note:** This is a repeat of a popular course that has been offered several semesters.

Are you still sitting around since the Coronavirus lockdown, or do you just need some motivation? Join us in a personalized exercise course to help you get back on your feet with increased stamina, strength, agility, flexibility, and overall health.

**Format:** Our instructor, Adam Stone, will lead you through effective, safe, and functional exercises and offer individual feedback to ensure you employ proper techniques that are appropriate for Seniors. NOTE: The coordinator will record each Zoom session (see box on page 2 for more information) and email a link to each class member. This is for your own use only and not to be distributed anywhere. You will only see the instructor, not yourself or any class member. The purpose is so you can practice the moves on your own time and pace. ALSO NOTE: Participation in this class is at your own risk. Registrants will receive a waiver to sign upon registration.

**Resources/Expenses:** You will need a set of exercise bands, dumbbells and one or more knee bands, all available locally or from Amazon.

**Instructor:** Adam Stone is the owner of STONEFIT, an independent Rhode Island based personal training company.

**Coordinator:** Sam Shamoon, an accomplished LLC coordinator, has been Adam's student for the last several years and is delighted with the results.

### REGISTRATION POLICY

1. Lifelong Learning Collaborative (LLC) classes are filled on a "first come/first served" basis up to the enrollment limit. Enrollment limits will include coordinators. No exceptions will be made to the enrollment limits.
2. No registration is accepted until payment is received.
3. Date/time of registration will be determined by the postmark of registrations sent in by mail.
4. Online registration is recommended. Because mailed registrations will not be processed before 2 PM on the day registration opens, spaces are not guaranteed if the class fills up prior to 2 PM. There are no exceptions.
5. A waiting list of up to four people will be formed after a class is full. People will be offered the opportunity of registering for an alternative course in lieu of remaining on the waiting list. When a waiting list is full, applicants turned away from a course will be encouraged to register for another course.
6. Coordinators need not register or pay for the courses they coordinate. They must, however, be paid members of LLC.
7. The registrar will send, on a daily basis, by email or USPS (for members without email) acknowledgment of registration.
8. LLC reserves the right to cancel classes with fewer than ten participants. The decision will be made jointly by the coordinator and the Curriculum Committee chair. Those registered in cancelled classes will be given the opportunity to sign up for other classes or to receive a full refund.
9. If a registrant withdraws from a class for any reason, a refund, minus a \$10 administrative fee, will be issued up to one week before the start date of the class. No refunds will be issued after that time unless there are extreme extenuating circumstances. REQUESTS FOR REFUNDS MUST BE MADE IN WRITING (email info@lifelonglearningcollaborative.org). Refund requests made through the Coordinator(s) will not be honored.
10. Those on the waiting list who are not accepted into the class of their choice can choose another class or receive a full refund.
11. Guests are welcome in LLC classes one time only, with the advance approval of the Coordinator(s). There are no auditors.



**Learn.  
Discover.  
Enjoy.**