

# THURSDAY

## • Current Events

Register early for this course, especially if you are a news addict—you'll get all the informed and fascinating debate and discussion you need. Three issues to explore in depth are chosen by the moderator, who presents some background information, and then opens up discussion to the group. The topics selected will include whatever important events are currently affecting government decisions, impacting the international stage, or moving the markets. Everyone is welcome to contribute their ideas and opinions to what is always a lively and stimulating debate.

Bruce Varcoe has been leading this course in the Fall and Winter semesters since 2003. With a background in advertising and teaching, he has a passion for history, current events, and debate. There still have been no casualties!

Limited to 50 participants

Dates: Sept. 29 – Dec. 1 (10 sessions)

Time: Thursdays, 10:10 a.m. – 11:55 a.m.

Fee: \$45.00

Moderator: Bruce Varcoe

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## Kickstarting Your Creativity: A Playful Springboard to Writing

What ideas are lurking inside, just waiting to burst out and claim space on a page?

This class will enable you to generate and explore ideas in a fun-filled way.

Discover your inner poet. Pen a mini-memoir for the ages. Consider this class as an Imagination Fitness class. Come play your way to writing.

Sharon Singer has been an unpublished poet, English teacher, editor, librarian, and a lover of words all her life.

Limited to 16 participants

Dates: Oct. 6 – Nov. 17 (7 sessions)

Time: Thursdays, 10:10 a.m. – 11:55 a.m.

Fee: \$36.00

Moderator: Sharon Singer

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## Psychology: Lunch 'n Learn

Bring your lunch and enjoy the hour or so with professors from Ryerson's Department of Psychology. This six-week series will provide you with insight into many issues in psychology with topics, such as understanding psychological tests, the psychology of aging, eyewitness testimony, the psychology of driving, some clinical and cultural issues in psychology, music perception, and understanding issues of today by looking at past behaviour. All presentations will include time for meaningful discussion.

Dates: Oct. 6 – Nov. 10 (6 sessions)

Time: Thursdays, 12:15 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Fee: \$35.00

*\*Please note starting time.*

## • Johann Sebastian Bach:

### His Life and Times and His Music

**NEW!**

Johann Sebastian Bach lived from 1685 to 1750 during what we now call the Baroque period, and his music is its supreme example. Famous in his time more as an organ virtuoso performer than as a composer, his own wondrous works are revered today. This course will walk us through his life and times and introduce us to selections of some of his most renowned works, with liberal use being made of DVDs and CDs of various artists and their performances.

Marcel Deurvorst, a long-time LIFE moderator, will be a guest speaker for the presentation of the *St. Matthew Passion*, a part of this series.

Roger Payne (known to dabble in photography from time to time) is a long-time fan of J.S. Bach, with a desire to share the joys of his music. Roger will be dipping deeply into his own DVD and CD collection.

**Limited to 40 participants**

**Dates:** Oct. 6 – Nov. 10 (6 sessions)

**Time:** Thursdays, 10:10 a.m. – 11:55 a.m.

**Fee:** \$33.00

**Moderator:** Roger Payne

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## • The NFB at the Oscars!

**NEW!**

To date, the National Film Board of Canada has won 12 Oscars and received 69 nominations, making it the most honoured film institution in Canada and one of the most respected in the world. This course will consist of the crème de la crème from its incredible film library, with an eclectic mix of animated, documentary shorts, and drama – categories in which the NFB have dominated since its first win in 1941. Films include the very popular animated *The Cat Came Back* and *Bob's Birthday*, and the controversial short documentary *If You Love This Planet*.

Wyndham Wise studied film and drama at U of T's Massey College Graduate School of Drama and has a MFA in film studies from York University. He has taught film studies and has been writing about Canadian cinema since 1971. He is the current editor of *Canadian Cinematographer* and a contributor and consultant to The Canadian Encyclopedia online.

**Dates:** Oct. 6 – Nov. 3 (5 sessions)

**Time:** Thursdays, 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

**Fee:** \$45.00

**Lecturer:** Wyndham Wise

**Locations:** National Film Board: 150 John St. (at Richmond St. W)

*\*Please note starting and ending times.*

## ● **Weird Historical Events**

**NEW!**

The Weird Guys are back! Following our successes with *People Believe Weird Stuff* and *Is Right Wing Politics Weird?*, we invite you to join us again to examine some strange and puzzling historical events. We'll have some prepared topics such as the notorious Dreyfus Affair, Toronto's Hurricane Hazel, the unexpected assassinations of Yitzhak Rabin, John Lennon, and Crown Prince Ferdinand at Sarajevo, and the Reichstag Fire of 1933. We'll look at what happened in such events but more important we'll ask "so what?" How did such weird things change the course of history?

The leaders will present ideas for research, examination, and discussion and will welcome involvement of participants in determining topics and presenting ideas.

Geoff Arnold and Eugene Strauss, LIFE's own Weird Guys, have joined forces again.

Geoff is one of LIFE's experienced moderators who always likes to keep on learning. Eugene has been an active member of LIFE since its inception and enjoys both moderating and participating in classes.

**Limited to 30 participants**

**Dates:** Sept. 29 – Dec. 1 (10 sessions)

**Time:** Thursdays, 12:10 p.m. – 1:55 p.m.

**Fee:** \$45.00

**Moderators:** Geoff Arnold and Eugene Strauss

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## ● **Whodunit? And Why Do We Want to Know?**

**NEW!**

Ever since Edgar Allan Poe introduced C. Auguste Dupin in 1841, readers have been fascinated by fictional detectives – from little old ladies and amateurs in every field to private eyes and tough street cops. Through our reading of a selection of stories and class discussion, we'll look at the elements of the detective story, how they've changed over the years, and why the fascination continues. Come prepared to talk about your favourite detective. A reading list will be provided.

Shirley Griffin is an avid reader of mysteries. She joined LIFE after retiring from The Bank of Nova Scotia as Assistant General Manager, International Trust & Private Banking. She was a Board member for two years as Chair of the Members & Volunteers Committee. She has enjoyed participating in many LIFE courses.

**Limited to 30 participants**

**Dates:** Oct. 6 – Nov. 24 (8 sessions)

**Time:** Thursdays, 12:10 p.m. – 1:55 p.m.

**Fee:** \$39.00

**Moderator:** Shirley Griffin

## ●... And All That Jazz

This is *the* class for jazz lovers. See and hear the greats in virtuoso performances of music that challenges mind, body, and soul. Come along to listen, enjoy, and be moved. This will be a survey of jazz within its social and historical context, with music drawn from an extensive CD and DVD library. This is not a repeat of last year's course, and much of the material will be new.

*This course will be offered at Wellesley Central Place, 160 Wellesley Street East, northwest corner of Wellesley St. E. and Sherbourne St. This location is accessible by TTC.*

Mel Manley and Harold Swartz love jazz and have been involved jazz fans for many years.

**Limited to 35 participants**

**Dates:** Sept. 29 – Dec. 1 (10 sessions)

**Time:** Thursdays, 2:10 p.m. – 3:55 p.m.

**Fee:** \$45.00

**Moderators:** Mel Manley and Harold Swartz

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## ● Great Women Photographers

**NEW!**

This course examines how women photographers create images from a woman's point of view, as well as how women themselves have been the subjects of the camera lens from Victorian times to the present. Works of legends like Annie Liebovitz and Dorothea Lange will be viewed and discussed, along with lesser known greats like Julia Margaret Cameron and Cindy Sherman. Each class will feature group discussion, presentation of famous photos and biographies, and celebration of the photographic image.

Diane Sullivan is a former teacher with a lifelong interest in the status of women in the arts.

Lynn Reed had a career in advertising and also taught visual arts at Harbourfront. She is passionate about lifelong learning and has been a LIFE member for three years.

**Limited to 25 participants**

**Dates:** Oct. 6 – Nov. 24 (8 sessions)

**Time:** Thursdays, 2:10 p.m. – 3:55 p.m.

**Fee:** \$39.00

**Moderators:** Diane Sullivan and Lynn Reed

## ● History of the English Language

**NEW!**

Did you know that the word “travel” is derived from an instrument of torture? That hotels and hospitals have something in common? The fascinating history of the English language is full of such surprises. This course is a survey of the influences that have shaped English vocabulary over the years. In a lively and interesting way, we will tie the linguistic developments in with the social and political events with which they coincided. Topics will include why English spelling is so difficult, why we have such a large word-stock, and how dictionaries are written.

Katherine Barber, an authority on English usage, particularly in Canada, is “Canada’s Word Lady,” bestselling author, and founding editor of the Canadian Oxford Dictionary. Legions of fans appreciate her knack for making word histories lively and entertaining.

**Dates:** Oct. 13 – Dec. 1 (8 sessions)

**Times:** Thursdays, 2:10 p.m. – 3:55 p.m.

**Fee:** \$55.00

**Lecturer:** Katherine Barber

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## ● What Does China’s Rise Really Mean?

**NEW!**

All this talk about a new world order and the power shift from West to East really boils down to one thing: China. Whichever way we look at it—economics, hard power, or soft power—China is on a roll. However, many accept this statement without carefully examining whether it really stands up to scrutiny and what it means. In this course, we will look at all aspects of China’s rise, from how real it is to how it will affect everyone else. We will consider how the world might look in 2030, if China’s rise continues its current trajectory.

As an international management consultant, John Simke, CA, worked with large corporations and governments to solve problems. Pat Simke, MBA, had a long career in health and wealth at senior levels in the public sector and as a business owner and investment advisor in the private sector. In retirement, both Pat and John have studied international relations at Cambridge and the London School of Economics.

Questions on the course? [jsimke@sympatico.ca](mailto:jsimke@sympatico.ca) Limited to 30 participants

**Dates:** Sept. 29 – Dec. 1 (10 sessions)

**Time:** Thursdays, 2:10 p.m. – 3:55 p.m.

**Fee:** \$60.00 (includes the course booklet and all handouts)

**Moderators:** John and Pat Simke

*(NOTE: the \$12 cost of the course booklet is nonrefundable)*

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## ● Managing Your Digital

### Photographs

(For more information, see Computer Courses Section, pp. 22-24)