

STUDY GROUPS

Study Groups are 8 – 10 weeks, ~2 hours/session. Fees and maximum numbers vary. Classes may be in-person at Grosvenor Lodge in the Drake Room, online via Zoom, or a combination.

In Study Groups, each member researches a topic related to the general subject and shares their findings with the class. Format: 25–30 minute presentations followed by 20-minute discussions.

IN OUR LIFETIME: ADVANCES IN SCIENCE

19 MEMBERS MAXIMUM IN-PERSON

Mondays 1:30 - 3:30 p.m.

September 18 – November 27 (10 sessions; no class Thanksgiving Day, Oct. 9)

Course Leader: George Cranton

Fee: \$70

Advances in science can be incremental or revolutionary, beneficial or harmful, and have immediate or longer-term effects. Tell us about an example of science or technology that has appeared in our lifetime. How does it work? How has it affected you and/or society? What's so interesting about it, or is it just really fascinating?

Possible Topics: Vaccines, pacemakers, MRIs, human genome, DNA fingerprinting, ATM, digital music, portable electric tools, TV remote, jet airliner, electric/autonomous vehicles, the Green Revolution, GM crops, integrated circuits, the PC, the Internet, GPS, Bluetooth, fibre optics, smartphones, the ISS, Hubble, space telescopes, moon landings, global warming.

THE PRESENT AND FUTURE OF SOUTHEAST ASIA

15 MEMBERS MAXIMUM ONLINE

Mondays 1:30 - 3:30 p.m.

September 18 - November 13 (8 sessions; no class Thanksgiving Day, October 9)

Course Leader: Margaret Cowan

Fee: \$60

Thinking about Southeast Asia creates visions of tropical plants and birds, colourful clothing, silks, and spices: Paradise! However, with all its beauty, the region faces current and expected future challenges. Choose a country or countries and discuss how it is, or will be, affected by these challenges. Or choose a challenge and discuss how it affects the region as a whole.

Possible topics: Indonesia, Cambodia, Philippines, Thailand, Malaysia, Myanmar, Vietnam, Singapore, Laos, Brunei, East Timor, Christmas Island, China, India, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Bangladesh, South Korea, Cocos Islands. Challenges: air pollution, endangered species, destruction of coral reefs, deforestation, water insecurity, power of neighbouring countries, etc. Ted Talks are a good resource.

ALMOST LIKE BEING THERE! LOCALES IN FICTION

19 MEMBERS MAXIMUM IN-PERSON

Tuesdays 9:30 – 11:30 a.m.

September 19 – November 21 (10 sessions)

Course Leader: Barbara Miles; Co-leader: Pam Shewchuk

Fee: \$70

Fiction lets us explore unfamiliar locales or enhances our appreciation of well-known places. Some books or series evoke a strong sense of place - the physical, social, and cultural setting of the story - that enriches our enjoyment of plot and characters. What have you

learned about a real country, city, or rural area through fiction? Did the book encourage you to (re)visit? Where has reading taken you?

Possible Topics: Newfoundland, Norfolk, Ireland, Leon's Venice, Norway, Canadian North, London, Rankin's Edinburgh, Afghanistan, Mistry's India, Chile, Northern Ontario, France, New York, Connelly's Los Angeles, Yorkshire, Barcelona, Toronto, or a location of your choosing.

POTPOURRI

15 MEMBERS MAXIMUM IN-PERSON

Tuesdays 1:30 – 3:30 p.m.

September 19 – November 7 (8 sessions)

Course Leader: Brian Sherry; Co-Leader: Roy Hind

Fee: \$60

The field is wide open for any topic you think will challenge the intellect, tickle the funny bone, provoke controversy, stimulate discussion, or keep us informed. Do you have some insight that you have always wanted to share with others? Here you have an attentive and appreciative audience.

SECRET SOCIETIES

19 MEMBERS MAXIMUM IN-PERSON

Wednesdays 9:30 - 11:30 a.m.

September 20 – November 22 (10 Sessions)

Course Leader: Lydia Keras; Co-Leader: Lynn Hamilton

Fee: \$70

Secret societies inspire curiosity, fascination, and distrust. They have been around since ancient times, but many still exist today. While some societies have been deemed seditious or even criminal, others may be viewed as agencies for mutual aid, brotherhood, or good works. Wouldn't you like to unveil some of their secrets, learn why they started and what they accomplished?

Possible Topics: Freemasons, Ku Klux Klan, Bilderberg Group, Skull and Bones Society, Black Hand, Opus Dei, Knights Templar, Illuminati, Orange Order, Odd Fellows.

FAMOUS 20TH CENTURY ARTISTS

15 MEMBERS IN-PERSON; 4 MEMBERS ONLINE

Wednesdays 1:30 - 3:30 p.m.

September 20 - November 22 (10 Sessions)

Course Leader: Jeff Keenor

Fee: \$70

The 20th century heralded a significant shift of perspective in the visual art world leading to new, experimental approaches. The most famous artists leave behind a massive collection of art that spans many different movements, evoking emotions ranging from awe to puzzlement. The movements include Expressionism, Cubism, Surrealism, Pop Art, and others. We will explore the art and lives of these artists.

Possible topics: Salvador Dali, Pablo Picasso, Andy Warhol, Jackson Pollock, Edvard Munch, Ai Wei Wei, Georgia O'Keeffe, David Hockney, Frida Kahlo, Auguste Rodin, Henry Moore, Paul Klee, Cornelius Krieghoff, Alex Colville, Henri Matisse, Gerhard Richter, Lawrence Weiner.

STUDY GROUPS

Study Groups are 8–10 weeks, ~2 hours/session. Fees and maximum numbers vary. Classes may be in-person at Grosvenor Lodge in the Drake Room, online via Zoom, or a combination.

PLANES, TRAINS AND AUTOMOBILES

15 MEMBERS MAXIMUM IN-PERSON; 4 MEMBERS ONLINE

Thursdays 9:30 – 11:30 a.m.

September 21 – November 23 (10 sessions)

Course Leader: Ed Jambor; Co-leader: TBA

Fee: \$70

Are you a train, car or airplane buff? Do you know everything there is to know about locomotives or automobiles? Do you have a favourite restored vehicle in your garage? Is there a personal train, airplane trip you'd like to share or a famous train robbery or plane/ship disaster you want to tell us about? Anything at all related to trains, planes and automobiles will fit this category. All stories are welcome!

Possible Topics: *The latest military jets; scenic railway rides; your model railway set; commercial aircraft then and now; drones; Great Train Robbery; famous pilots (i.e., Amelia Earhart, Charles Lindbergh, Chuck Yeager); Spitfire vs Messerschmidt; Orville brothers), Model T Fords; evolving engine designs; Industrial Revolution; train/plane disasters, your car restoration/breakdown/repair stories.*

WHAT'S MUSIC TO YOUR EARS?

15 MEMBERS MAXIMUM IN-PERSON; 4 MEMBERS ONLINE

Thursdays 1:30 – 3:30 p.m.

September 21 – November 23 (10 sessions)

Course Leader: Burton Moon; Co-leader: TBA

Fee: \$70

What is music to your ears? What's on your personal playlist? It could be jazz, folk, classical, country and western, pop, opera, or maybe even reggae or rap. Share your favourite artist, instrument or style with the group. Say it, play it and we will listen.

GREY POWER

15 MEMBERS MAXIMUM IN-PERSON

Fridays 9:30 – 11:30 a.m.

September 22 – November 10 (8 sessions)

Course Leader: Jean Hewitt; Co-leader: TBA

Fee: \$60

Although we may sense that we no longer count in the affairs of the world, seniors actually have the potential to wield great influence. Let's learn about the strategies which have been used to bring much-needed changes to people's lives locally, nationally, or internationally, and some of the people behind those changes.

Possible Topics: *Activists such as David Suzuki, Henrietta Muir Edwards, Henry Morgentaler, Grandmothers to Grandmothers, Influential seniors such as Hazel McCallion, Nancy Pelosi, Nelson Mandela, or personal experiences of activism in which a variety of strategies were used to achieve a specific goal.*

DISCUSSION GROUPS (In-Person & Online)

Number of sessions, maximum numbers and fees vary, as well as whether online, in-person, or a combination. In-person classes are held in specified rooms at Grosvenor Lodge or off-site; online classes on Zoom.

WHAT ARE THEY DIGGING UP NOW?

12 MEMBERS MAXIMUM IN-PERSON

Mondays 10:00 - 11:30 a.m.

September 18 - November 6 (7 sessions; no class

Thanksgiving Day, October 9)

Course Leader: Twyla Atchison

Fee: \$50

Knowing about our past helps to define us in the present. Archaeologists are searching for our past in many locations around the world, unearthing pottery, bones, weapons, tools, buildings and whole cities. Based on TED Talks, we'll discuss these findings and what they reveal about our ancient past. Please join us.

NOTE: Hot Topics in the News 1 and 2 are stand-alone courses. You may register in either or both. Hot Topics 1 is in-person; 2 is online.

HOT TOPICS IN THE NEWS 1 (in-person)

12 MEMBERS MAXIMUM IN-PERSON (DINING ROOM)

Mondays 11:45 a.m. - 1:15 p.m.

September 18 - October 23 (5 sessions; no class on

Thanksgiving Day October 9)

Course Leader: George Cherian

Fee: \$35

and/or

HOT TOPICS IN THE NEWS 2 (online)

12 MEMBERS MAXIMUM ONLINE

Mondays 11:45 a.m. - 1:15 p.m.

October 30 - November 27 (5 sessions)

Course Leader: Edna Blomquist

Fee: \$35

A weekly sampling of what's happening in our city, province, country, and the rest of the world. Topics can range from politics, racial issues, health care, education, history, arts and entertainment, ethics, to good deeds - what is of interest to you, is of interest to us. Each participant, in turn, will bring in three items for the whole group to discuss.

LET'S TALK ABOUT DEATH AND DYING

12 MEMBERS MAXIMUM ONLINE

Tuesdays 1:30 – 3:30 p.m.

September 19 – November 21 (10 sessions)

Course Leader: Susan Booth; Zoom Host: TBA

Fee: \$70

Death is the one great certainty in life and a personal journey each of us approaches in our own way. Let's consider our own unique path with death, dying and grieving by exploring this important, though uncomfortable, topic. Together, we will be posing vitally important questions, sharing experiences, and offering thoughtful observations that may profoundly change the way we live and die.

HOMELESSNESS, HERE AND NOW

12 MEMBERS MAXIMUM IN-PERSON (DINING ROOM)

Wednesdays 1:30 - 3:00 p.m.

September 20 - October 25 (6 sessions)

Course Leader: Phyllis Brady

Fee: \$45

The UN Declaration of Human Rights states that everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of themselves/their family . . . and the right to security in the event of unemployment,

Fall 2023

Got Questions?

phone: 519.438.3525
slrlondonontario@gmail.com
www.slrlondon.com

DISCUSSION GROUPS (In-Person & Online)

HOMELESSNESS, HERE AND NOW cont...

sickness, disability, and other circumstances beyond their control. Join us to discuss the causes, effects, management and solutions. How can this growing cultural/economic situation be reversed?

LIVELY POETRY READS

10 MEMBERS MAXIMUM IN-PERSON (DINING ROOM)

**Meets 1st and 3rd Thursdays, 11:45 a.m. – 1:15 p.m.
September 21, October 5, 19, November 2, 16 (5 sessions)**

**Course Leaders: Denise Ritchie and Ros Moorhead
Fee: \$35**

Members meet to share and discuss poetry and poets – dead poets, live poets, ancient poetry, new poetry – let's explore together.

SMART CITIES: RE-IMAGINING COMMUNITIES OF THE FUTURE

12 MEMBERS MAXIMUM ONLINE

Thursdays 1:30 – 3:00 p.m.

October 26 – November 23 (5 sessions)

**Course Leader: Lydia Keras; Co-leader: Eleanor Rath
Fee: \$35**

Canadian cities struggle with rapid growth, increased costs, traffic chaos, food insecurity, and homelessness. Cities around the world are creating initiatives to make their communities more sustainable, more efficient, and more livable by harnessing digital technologies. Many Canadian cities participated in the federal Smart Cities Challenge. How are the winning cities improving their communities? Let's explore the successes and challenges for cities of the future.

ACTIVITY GROUPS

ART WITH COLOURED PENCILS

12 MEMBERS MAXIMUM ONLINE

Mondays 1:30 - 3:30 p.m.

**September 18 - October 30 (6 sessions; no class
Thanksgiving Day, October 9)**

Course Leader: Janet Johnson

Fee: \$45

Using colour pencils is inexpensive, portable and uncomplicated. Pencils are used in serious artwork such as botanical illustration as well as in fine art. You will learn basic mark making, choosing your subject and colour blending, as well as transferring your image to paper. A list of inexpensive materials (paper and pencils) will be sent. Open to new and returning course participants.

TAKE A HIKE

12 MEMBERS MAXIMUM IN-PERSON; OFF-SITE

Tuesdays 9:30 – 11:30 a.m.

September 19 – October 24 (6 sessions)

Course Leader: Phil Waller; Co-Leader: Richard Waring

Fee: \$45

Let's explore some of London's diverse Environmentally Sensitive Areas - ESAs (see <https://london.ca/ESA>) along waterways and through forests, meadows, and wetlands, rich with diverse plant and animal life. The Fall colours will be spectacular in October. We will hike at a moderate pace over relatively flat terrain for a maximum of 75-minutes, typically covering 3-4 kms. Join us to experience and learn more about London's natural heritage.

INTRODUCTION TO MINDFULNESS

MEDITATION

15 MEMBERS MAXIMUM IN-PERSON (DINING ROOM)

Tuesdays 11:45 a.m. – 1:15 p.m.

September 19 – October 24 (6 sessions)

Course Leader: Michael Johnson

Fee: \$45

Meditation helps us gain greater mental, emotional, physical, and spiritual calm. Mindfulness Meditation can equip us to live calmly and peacefully with greater curiosity about, acceptance of, and appreciation for the depth and richness of life. This course will introduce basic mindfulness and meditation concepts and practices that can be brought into our everyday lives, moment by moment.

LET'S UKE IT UP

8 MEMBERS MAXIMUM IN-PERSON (COACH HOUSE)

Wednesdays 1:30 – 3:30 p.m.

September 20 – November 22 (10 sessions)

Course Leader: Noële Hall

Fee: \$70

Learn to play the versatile little four-stringed ukulele. Together, we will learn a little strumming, a little finger picking, and even a few cool solos! Absolutely no musical background or ability to read music is required. Bring a ukulele, music stand, and the Hal Leonard Ukulele Method Book 1, Audio Access version (purchase at Long and McQuade, approximately \$18).

"Keeping your brain stimulated and your spirit young"

INTEREST GROUPS

PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB with Jeff Keenor

20 MEMBERS MAXIMUM ONLINE

Meets first Tuesday of each month, September through June, 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Fee: \$30 for 2023-2024 Year

Open to anyone with a digital camera, any skill level. We share photographs, tips, and techniques so that all increase their enjoyment of photography.

FRIENDS OF THE HYLAND FILM DISCUSSION GROUP with Phyllis Brady, Peggy Matser and Roslyn Money

40 MEMBERS MAXIMUM IN-PERSON, OFF-SITE

Meets second Wednesday of the month, September through June, for first matinee at the Hyland Cinema

Fee: \$15 for 2023-24 year

Members must purchase their own cinema tickets, Hyland Membership Card (if desired), and refreshments. Participants will be emailed the name and start time of each month's film a week prior and must confirm attendance. Attendees will meet for a post-film discussion at a nearby restaurant, where food and beverages may be purchased.

GINA BARBER SLR SINGERS with Susan Jones and Mike Zadorsky

24 MEMBERS MAXIMUM IN-PERSON (DRAKE ROOM)

Meets Fridays, 11:45 a.m. – 1:15 p.m.

September to June

Fee: \$30 for 2023 - 2024 Year

The SLR Choir will continue in 2023 - 2024, but there are likely to be few openings. The choir would welcome new members but is limited by space. Once the choir

is full, you are welcome to add your name to our waiting list of potential members, which we will address when we have openings. (A link to the waiting list is on the SLR Registration webpage.)

THE SLUGS (Ukulele Group) with Noële Hall and Jacqui Griffin

20 MEMBERS MAXIMUM IN-PERSON (COACH HOUSE)

Meets Fridays, 1:15 – 3:15 p.m.

September to June

Fee: \$30 for 2023 - 2024 Year

The SLUGS will meet on Fridays inside or outside the Coach House. Our focus is to have fun practicing our skills and polishing up the songs we have learned. New songs will be introduced, and Noële will help develop our musical and performing skills when she is available. Graduates of previous ukulele courses are invited to join the group.

COMPUTER CLINIC with Western Students

Coordinators: Jean Surry, Brian Henderson, and Phyllis Brady

Dates TBD: Weekly, October and November (watch for update notices)

Fee: Free with SLR membership

Here's a great opportunity to expand your IT skills. Western student volunteers are matched with SLR members to provide one-on-one assistance with your laptop, tablet or smart phone and your techie questions at Grosvenor Lodge. For more information and to schedule an appointment, please contact slr.computer.clinic@gmail.com (NOT the SLR office)

SOCIAL EVENTS

FALL PROGRAM PREVIEW (ONLINE)

Friday, June 16, 1:30 – 2:30 p.m.

Registration opens at 3 p.m. following Preview

Join us for a spirited and fun peek preview of our Fall offerings. Each of our course leaders is given just 1-1/2 minutes to convince you to sign up for their class – not an easy task!

Note: The Zoom link will be sent a day or two prior and posted on our website and Facebook pages. Zoom opens at 1:00 for socializing; program begins 1:30 sharp. Please check in no later than 1:25.

LET'S GET TOGETHER SOCIAL

Wednesday, September 13, 11:30 - 1:30 p.m.

Springbank Park (Boler and Commissioners Road Entrance, Parking Area K)

No Cost

Pack your lunch and join us at the park to enjoy a picnic and a meeting of fellow SLR members before the start of the Fall term. Bring lawn chairs and any outdoor games such as frisbee, bean bag toss, boules. A croquet course will be set up for your participation. You may choose to linger and take a stroll through the beautiful park.

BUXTON AND DRESDEN ROAD TRIP

Thursday, October 19, 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Cost: \$15 (Pay your own admission at each museum)

Email intent to participate at slrlonsocial@gmail.com

Pack a picnic lunch and carpool through the beautiful

Please pay for these separately.

fall countryside enroute to Buxton to visit the National Historical Museum in the morning. The afternoon will be spent in Dresden at the Josiah Henson Museum of African Canadian History. These settlements were established by and for formerly enslaved Black people in the mid-1800's.

TRIVIA NIGHT (Online)

Tuesday, November 14, 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.

No Cost

Back by popular demand, we are hosting our 3rd annual Trivia Night. For those of you who thrive on fun answering questions and who are competitive team players, this evening is for you. Join a team to pit your skills against some of the best SLR quiz experts and may the best team win.

FESTIVE BANQUET

Friday, December 8, 12:00 noon

Highland Golf and Country Club, 1922 Highland Heights

(West of Ridout on Commissioners Road)

Cost: T.B.A.

This event is an annual highlight, looked forward to by SLR members each December to close out the Fall term. The idyllic setting, delicious meal and great conversation is a great way to kick off the festive season. Share stories about Fall courses you have attended and chat about plans for new learning opportunities in the 2024 winter term.

Note: For additional details on all our groups, please visit our website at www.slrlondon.com

Fall 2023

Got Questions?

phone: 519.438.3525

slrlondonontario@gmail.com

www.slrlondon.com

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

FALL PROGRAM PREVIEW (ONLINE)

Friday, June 16, 1:30 – 2:30 p.m. (Zoom opens at 1:00; Preview begin 1:30 sharp.)

FALL REGISTRATION

Opens at 3 p.m. immediately following the Program Preview on June 16, and continues until courses begin the week of September 19. Courses are on a first-come/first-served basis.

FALL OPEN HOUSE (Grosvenor Lodge)

Wednesday, September 6, 10:00 - 12:00 noon

This is your last chance to register in person and talk with course leaders. Short information sessions will be presented for prospective and current members who would like an overview of SLR. Bring your friends! All are welcome.

COURSE LEADERS' WORKSHOP (Online)

Thursday, September 7, 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.

LET'S GET TOGETHER SOCIAL

Wednesday, September 13, 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

PRESENTATION WORKSHOP (Online)

Thursday, September 14, 1:00 – 2:00 p.m.

This workshop is designed to take all the worry out of making a presentation for Study Groups. All are welcome – newcomers and current members – who want to improve their presentation skills, including PowerPoint. You will receive advice on researching, preparing and presenting your topic.

THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY (No classes)

Monday, October 9th.

TRIVIA NIGHT (Online)

Tuesday, November 14, 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. (Online)

WINTER 2024 PROGRAM BROCHURE

Released Monday, November 20.

WINTER 2024 PROGRAM PREVIEW AND REGISTRATION

Friday, November 24

FESTIVE BANQUET

Friday, December 8, 12:00 noon

REGISTRATION INFORMATION & POLICIES

In-person classes will continue this winter, with some classes online and some a combination of in-person and online.

You can register for courses online by going to www.slrlondon.com or via regular mail. If unsure how to register online, go to the Help/Zoom link on the website menu (home page, top right) to get the easy step-by-step instructions. Courses are filled on a first-come/first-served basis.

MEMBERSHIP FEE

It's time for all members to renew their membership. All members must pay the yearly Membership Fee, which is **\$25** this year. Just select the Membership "product" on the website and add it to your cart in addition to your course selection(s) before checking out.

Waiting Lists:

If a course you want is **FULL**, you can add your name to a **Waiting List**. Sometimes openings become available prior to or in the first week. To join the waiting list, just click on our email link (under Mailing Address below) to send us a message. Be sure to tell us the **name of the course you want**.

Payment Options:

The website accepts credit cards (Visa and Mastercard) and some (not all) debit cards. As soon as you pay by credit card or debit card you will get an automatic email notification.

You can also pay by **cheque**. First select your courses, add your Membership Fee and proceed to checkout. After filling in your information, select the CHEQUE option (found just before the PLACE ORDER tab).

In the case of a cheque payment, you will receive a confirmation email which confirms your registration and will remind you to send a cheque asap making it payable to SLR London. If not received within a reasonable amount of time, SLR reserves the right to cancel your registration. Please mail it to the address below or drop it off in the Grosvenor Lodge Coach House on the days and times specified in a future email. Once we have received your cheque, you will be notified.

- **Note 1:** Registration is complete only when full payment has been received by SLR; cheques must be received before classes begin.
- **Note 2:** We are unable to process post-dated cheques. Please do not send cash through the mail.

MAILING ADDRESS

Society for Learning in Retirement

Grosvenor Lodge

1017 Western Road

London, ON N6G 1G5

519-438-3525

Email: slrlondonontario@gmail.com

Website: www.slrlondon.com

REFUND POLICY

No refunds are issued for Annual Membership Fees. If SLR cancels a program, a full refund is issued.

A full refund of fees, less a nominal \$5 administration fee, will be issued up to the second session of a course. Members who withdraw after the second week of term normally will not receive a refund.

Exceptions will be considered for medical or compassionate reasons.

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