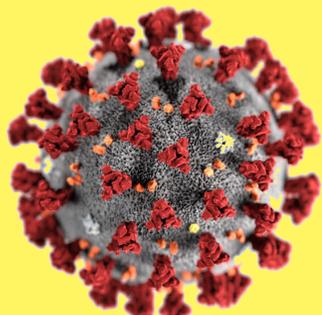




COVID-19 Changes Study Groups



by Davya Cohen, Vice-President of Study Groups

I trust everyone is well and in good spirits during these very trying and unique times.

As the Study Group Committee begins to plan for the fall season, we have been forced to make some very difficult decisions and would like to share them with you. Since our membership tends to be older and more vulnerable, the Study Group Committee has decided to take some extra precautions with our Study Groups. Even though Tucson is “opening up,” BNC Tucson is moving at a much slower pace.

The committee has decided to postpone sending out the Study Group Guide until Friday, August 14. We are looking at Study Groups beginning no sooner than October or November this year.

As we settle into our new “normal,” it looks like Zooming is going to be an important way to socialize and stay connected with one another. We have asked all Study Group leaders if they are willing to conduct their class in a Zoom format. We will continue with this format until we feel it is safe to return to our traditional way. Here are the groups that are jumping on the bandwagon and are willing to start the year off using the Zoom program: **Brandeis Men’s Book Club**, **Contemporary Fiction**, **Mystery Book Club**, **Classical Music in America: Thomas Jefferson to LBJ**, **Discussion & Review of 4 Provocative Films**, **Eating for the Health of It**, **Jewish Supreme Court Justices**, **Jews of Iberia: A History**, **Writing as Self-Discovery**, **Legal Puzzlers**, **Page Turners**, **Short Stories Book Club**, **Sit ‘n’ Stitch**, **Southwest Textiles and Baskets**, **The Canonicity of the Jewish and Christian Bible**, **Walk, Talk, & Coffee** (minus the coffee for now), and **Women Who’ve Made a Difference**.

It is even more important for our members to take advantage of what all our Study Groups have to offer: mental stimulation, camaraderie, compassion, and continuity, now in a virtual setting. We have acquired access to National’s Zoom account. If you are uncomfortable using Zoom, Terrie Sherman, our Zoom coordinator, is willing to help you individually and can easily assist you in mastering the technology.

The Study Group Committee understand there are some Study Groups that are unable to meet on-line. These Study Groups will be in the Study Group Guide (hoping that they will just get a little later start in the season): **Art Talks**, **Cactus and Koi**, **Competition Game Night**, **Cook the Continents**, **Couples Dining Out**, **Enjoying Our Just Desserts**, **Foreign Film**, **Hiking Group for Men and Women**, **Movie Tuesday**, **Social Bridge**, **Social Mah Jongg**, and **You Gotta Have Art**.

Our goal is for all Study Groups eventually to meet in the traditional way.

Remember, in order to sign up for Study Groups, you must have your dues paid up. Since Brandeis University is still partially closed, you may want to send your check directly to **Terrie Sherman, 7580 E. Río Verde Drive, Tucson 85715**. Terrie will forward your check to Brandeis University.

Thank you for your understanding. 🙏

If We Don’t Have Your E-mail, We Need It Now

With our possible change from actual to virtual meetings of Study Groups, events, and meetings, we need to have your e-mail address. If it is not in the directory, please send your e-mail information as soon as possible to **Steve Seltzer**, seltz5001@aol.com, so that you can be included in our Brandeis functions. 🙏



PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Study Groups: Welcome to our special edition of the Tucson Chapter, Brandeis National Committee bulletin. We have printed this special edition because of the COVID-19 virus. We have had to make major changes in our plans for the Study Group Guide and the actual Study Groups.

Although we had planned to mail our Study Group Guide on Wednesday, July 1, we will now mail it on Friday, August 14. We had planned to have people mail it by late August, but now it must be in the mail no earlier than Tuesday, September 15. We will be assigned our courses by Thursday, October 1.

As many groups as possible may meet on Zoom at the start of their year, although they may convert to regular Study Groups if the COVID-19 epidemic ends in Arizona. Some Study Groups which have to meet together may have special regulations, including masks and social distancing if necessary.

President: We don't have a single person as president this year. A number of officers and board members will be leading the Tucson Chapter as a Leadership Team for various periods:

- Steve Seltzer will lead immediately after the June meeting, through the September meeting.
- Rachel Barker will lead immediately after the September meeting, through the October meeting.
- Davya Cohen will lead immediately after the October meeting, through the December meeting.
- Steve Seltzer will lead immediately after the December meeting, through the January meeting.
- Marianne Taussig will lead immediately after the January meeting, through the February meeting.
- Tammy Strobel will lead immediately after the February meeting, through the March meeting.
- Lois Bodin will lead immediately after the March meeting, through the April meeting.

Marsha Rosenblum, President



OCTOBER 1
You will be notified
of your Study Group
classes.

SEPTEMBER 15
Mail in Your Study
Group Choices.

AUGUST 14
Study Group Guide
Mailing

2020
CALENDAR

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