

IDIOMATIC

Exploring the English language through its idioms

COURSE #:

22F-IDI

FORMAT:

Seminar

MODERATOR:

Jessie Tropp

DATE & TIME:

Tues - 9:30 - 11:30 AM
9 Weeks
Starting on 10/04/2022

LOCATION:

Zoom
Online Only

MAX NO. OF PARTICIPANTS:

18

AUDITORS ACCEPTED:

Yes

MAX NO. OF AUDITORS:

2

PURPOSE:

In this seminar we'll explore idioms and how these phrases that lend such nuance to our conversation came into common use.

DESCRIPTION:

As Ralph Waldo Emerson said, "Language is fossil poetry. As the limestone of the continent consists of infinite masses of the shells of animalcules, so language is made up of images, or tropes, which now, in their secondary use, have long ceased to remind us of their poetic origin."

An idiom is an expression that cannot be understood from the meanings of its separate words but that has a meaning of its own: A fly in the ointment, a fine kettle of fish, a shrinking violet. The origins of these expressions can be millennia old, with the original meaning transmuted over time into "fossil poetry." Idioms originate, for example, in the Bible, Shakespeare's plays, the seafaring life, and the military. In addition to origin sources, there are many idiom topics to explore, such as food, animals, plants, weather, and romance. A list of topic suggestions will be available for participants.

ROLE OF PARTICIPANTS:

Each participant will select one or more idiom topics to explore and present to the group in any format. Use PowerPoint or just talk, use pictures, draw cartoons, tell jokes, bring your grandchild, sing a song, be creative or be straightforward.

RESOURCES:

No required reading. Information is readily available online.

ABOUT THE MODERATOR:

This is Jessie's third time moderating an LIR seminar, all completely different. When her curiosity gets sparked by something, she knows that moderating is a great way to learn without having to do all the research herself.