

Adult r(ED) Spring 2011

LREI for adults. Why should kids have all of the fun?

Have you ever wanted to go to school in a progressive classroom similar to your child's? Intrigued by what you hear around the dinner table? Many parents of LREI students tell us how they wish that they could have the experiences that their children have each day.

In response to the very positive reviews of last year's classes, and those offered earlier this year, LREI will again be offering evening courses for adults, taught by members of our outstanding faculty. These will be seminar style courses, with an emphasis on discussion and open dialogue between participants. Members of our amazing faculty will be offering abridged versions of their most popular courses. The schedule for the spring term follows.

This term has five 90-minute sessions. Each course will be open to 15 participants. The courses meet simultaneously. If you are interested in participating, please choose a course and enroll, with the expectation that you will attend all five sessions. Some courses will have reading or writing assignments either before or during the trimester.

The course offerings and meeting dates follow.

There is a \$100 registration fee per course for each participant.

If you would like to register for one of these courses, please contact Rowena Penaranda-Askins at rpenaranda@lrei.org or (212) 477-5316, x295.

Term 3

Mondays—April 11, 25, May 2, 9, 16. 6:30P.M.-8:00P.M.

<u>Topic</u>	<u>Instructor</u>
Back to Basics Photography	Susan Now
Bollywood	Vinay Chowdhry
Teaching <i>Lolita</i> at LREI	Juia Heaton
Mandarin	Alicia Wang
Studies in Chinese and Japanese Culture, Religion and History	Mark Bledstein

Adult r(ED) Courses, Spring 2011 Alphabetical Listing

Back to Basics Photography—Susan Now, High School Photography

In this age of innovation, and instant gratification, here in this class, we focus on the classic 35 mm camera. Students will expose black and white film and print in the darkroom. Students will shoot one roll of film per week and then develop and print in the darkroom. Classes will be hands on and students will create images from film negatives. We will have two in-class critique sessions and also go on a field trip to visit the MOMA or ICP to see a photo exhibition. No experience necessary.

Behind the Veil of Bollywood: *The Modernization of India as Depicted through Hindi Cinema*—Vinay Chowdhry, HS Media Arts Teacher

This course examines post-colonial India through its pop culture films. The world's largest democracy is also the world's largest maker of films. India's most popular film industry is that of the Hindi film, housed in Bombay. Labeled Bollywood by tabloids, the name itself is offensive to academics, but the actual films are rich in linguistic, political, cultural, social, anthropological, and religious material for scholarly examination.

We will deconstruct select films and students will be provided with a new lens through which to examine modern India and its historical progression. In a country more diverse than Europe linguistically, ethnically, religiously, and culturally, film is perhaps the primary unifying factor in the "modern" Indian identity.

An Introduction to Mandarin Chinese—The most difficult language in the world? Alicia Wang, MS Mandarin Teacher

If you are a native English speaker then you are probably a victim of the same predisposed idea that many others once believed, that Chinese is one of the most difficult languages to learn. Well, if it's difficult, people are probably making it more difficult than it has to be. The biggest impediment to learning Chinese is fear. You will find it's one of the easiest languages to learn when it comes to speaking as it is so logical. It has no irregular verbs or noun plurals and it has much simpler grammar. By the end of the session, the "myths" of Chinese will be unveiled and you will be able to:

- read Pinyin (the phonetic system) with an emphasis on tones,
- have basic conversations,
- sing Chinese karaokes,
- recognize and write simple characters
- have better understanding of Chinese people and the culture.

Chinese is easier than you imagined, so why not give it a shot and surprise yourself!

Pornography or Masterpiece: Reading Lolita at LREI—Julia Heaton, Director of Admissions

"I shall never regret Lolita. She was like the composition of a beautiful puzzle-- its composition and its solution at the same time, since one is a mirror view of the other, depending on the way you look." – Vladimir Nabokov, 1964.

"What frightens or disturbs us in Lolita...opens our eyes to ourselves and our worlds. Everyone should read it for the pure joy." -- Azar Nafisi, *Reading Lolita in Tehran*

Published in 1955, Vladimir Nabokov's novel *Lolita* was hailed by Graham Greene as one of the best books of all time and also "the filthiest book I have ever read...sheer unrestrained pornography" (John Gordon, *London Sunday Express*, 1956). For the past half century, this iconic story of a middle-aged professor's infatuation with his adolescent stepdaughter continues to fascinate, intoxicate and alienate readers of all ages. In this five-week seminar, we will journey together through the novel *Lolita*, analyzing the text in terms of character, language, formal structure, and theme. Furthermore, we will consider the novel's publication history (banned in several countries) as well as its complicated position in the literary "canon". Finally, we will discuss the societal and moral implications of the novel's subject, and the complicity we feel as readers when we are at once "entranced with the book while abhorring its author" (Nabokov, *Lolita*). Participants will read an annotated version of *Lolita* as well as selected works of literary criticism.

Studies in Chinese and Japanese Culture, Religion and History—Mark Bledstein, HS History Teacher

In studies in China and Japan we will review Confucianism, Buddhism and Taoism in Chinese culture and history and Shintoism and Buddhism in Japanese culture and history. Also, we will review the speculation currently taking place among Asian historians concerning the historical foundations of China's current economic growth and expansion.