

SAUL BELLOW: LIFE'S JOURNEY: THREE GREAT NOVELS

Coordinator: Stephen Kalinsky

Saul Bellow, winner of the 1976 Nobel Prize for literature, said that "a novel is balanced between a few true impressions and the multitude of false ones that make up most of what we call life." In this study group we look at three of Bellow's great novels (all winner of the National Book Award) *The Adventures of Augie March*, *Herzog* and *Mr. Sammler's Planet* and we examine their picture of life's journey through youth, midlife and old age. In the process, we trace Bellow's flight from the hero's quest through urban Jewish collisions and the comic contradictions of mid-century America

Readings and other Required Materials:

Saul Bellow, *The Adventures of Augie March*

Saul Bellow, *Herzog*

Saul Bellow, *Mr. Sammler's Planet*

Steve Kalinsky, an attorney, has coordinated more than a dozen study groups on a wide variety of subjects including Aristotle, Charlie Chaplin, Thomas Mann's *The Magic Mountain* and William Faulkner

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Week 1	Introduction, biography of Saul Bellow, <i>The Adventures of Augie March</i>
Week 2	<i>The Adventures of Augie March</i>
Week 3	<i>The Adventures of Augie March</i>
Week 4	<i>The Adventures of Augie March</i>
Week 5	<i>The Adventures of Augie March</i>
Week 6	<i>Herzog</i>
Week 7	<i>Herzog</i>
Week 8	<i>Herzog</i>
Week 9	<i>Herzog</i>
Week 10	<i>Mr. Sammler's Planet</i>
Week 11	<i>Mr. Sammler's Planet</i>
Week 12	<i>Mr. Sammler's Planet</i> , Concluding Thoughts