

Course Descriptions

Empire to Hell Fire

Denise West

The purpose of this short interdisciplinary, course is to look at the work of prominent writers, artists and poets, living and creating in Britain in the first half of the 20th Century. We shall look at two famous novels, some poetry and paintings explore the social, cultural and philosophical views of the era.

It is recommended that the two books below will have been read before the course begins, and that your own copies are brought with you. All poetry and art resources will be supplied by me.

Books Required.

Howard's End
Mrs. Dalloway

E. M. Forster
Virginia Wolff

1910
1925

Poets

Sir Henry Newbolt
Wilfred Owen
T. S. Eliot

Artists

Dame Laura Knight
John Singer Sargent
Vanessa Bell
Duncan Grant
Pablo Picasso
Vassily Kandinsky

The Philosophers

Beth Rudkin

We will look at 4 philosophers, all very different, from different times.

Plato

A thinker from Ancient Greece, he opposed many of the ideas of his time, thinking "out of the box" as all great thinkers do. But the more you look at what he said, the more it makes sense.

Macchiavelli

A very different man. His rulers did not have to be moral, they had to be effective and that sometimes meant cruelty and underhanded dealing. Will we say "he had a point"?

John Stuart Mill

A man ahead of his time, best known for his thinking on liberty.

Karl Marx

We were all brought up to think of him as a "baddie". Maybe we will decide that he too had a point...

There will be videos and short readings of the writings of these philosophers and lots of discussion. My aim is that we will all go home just a little bit changed in our thinking.

Tackling climate change

Mike Green

In the first part of this course we will look at global climate change including “natural” variations through the ages and the evidence for an anthropogenic (human caused) temperature change since the industrial revolution. Since climate change deniers often attack the evidence for such an increase we will look at several independent indicators. This leads naturally to consideration of the cause of global temperature rise and projections into the future.

In the second part we will consider current generation and use of energy, what is being done at present to tackle climate change at international and national level and what more needs to be done. Finally we will discuss personal energy footprints and how we might reduce these.

Summer Painting in the Landscape

Dave Allott

Have you the desire to paint with oil or acrylic paint? Then this may be the course for you. The tutor is an experienced artist in both media. You will be encouraged to draw and paint, using the landscape for your inspiration.

Festivals and Creative Tourism: Experiences, Practices and Theories

Phil Long

This course will explore ideas about festivals, cultural events and “creative tourism” based on participant experiences within a framework of critical social science and humanities perspectives on these phenomena. The course will be focused on festivals and tourism that are associated with the “creative industries” as defined by the UK government. The course will also consider the roles that festivals and creative tourism may play for people of the “third age”.

“MAGIC IT’S JUST AN ILLUSION”

Mac McKechnie

Many U3A members have grandchildren. What better way to amuse them than to show them some baffling, easily learned, magic tricks? Or look at forming a group within your own U3A, and developing your skills. The proposed two day workshop would present delegates with learning opportunity within a small group, learning simple magic tricks using cards, rope and other simple props. Delegates will also be signposted to other sources for further ongoing study.

Magic is normally learned in these areas 1. Card Magic. 2 Children’s Magic. 3 Close up Magic, (including what we call table hopping) - 4 Mentalism, and finally Stage Magic. Delegates will be shown, and learn how to, perform tricks from each of these areas. At the end of day two, there will be a simple internal competition, where delegates can show their learned skill to others. *(The aim is to have two days of fun)*

It needs to be stressed that contrary to popular belief this is not just a male “thing” - some of the worlds finest magicians are ladies, so all are welcome and it is totally inclusive.

The tutor is an experienced ex professional Magician, member of the Huddersfield Circle of Magicians and Coordinator of the Barnsley U3A Magic Group.

Delegates will be asked to sign a disclaimer at the beginning of the workshop that they will not disclose magical “knowledge” outside of magic groups. Delegates will be required to bring £10.00 to cover the cost of some magic “props” (eg. cards and rope which will be supplied by the tutor.)

History of Art

Tony Daniels

Understanding Paintings: An Introduction to Reading Paintings

The aim of the course will be to introduce the essential features of a painting and cover topics such as the painting as an object (materials and techniques; attribution, date and title; and documentation of a painting’s history), ways of looking at paintings and reading paintings (problems faced by the modern viewer, etc.), pictorial elements of a painting (composition, space, colour, tone and form) and the organization of paintings by subject matter or genre (history painting, portraiture etc.)

There will be a series of lectures, but with some member participation in the reading of paintings.

Jewellery Making

Barbara Grinshaw Sue Stokes

Participants will have the opportunity to learn how to create jewelry items using various techniques including beading, macramé, knitting/crocheting with beads and kumahimo. Basic tools and equipment will be needed. These can be provided by the tutors (at an additional cost of £20) or purchased by delegates prior to the event. Participants are encouraged to bring a selection of beads – these could be old necklaces and bracelets from charity shops to be disassembled and reused. Specific lists of equipment will be circulated to delegates before the Summer School.

Summer School Administrator

20th December 2018