

Summer Holiday Courses 2018

Thursday Short Courses 10am-12noon

The following courses have to be booked in advance and are open to over 18s and non-members. Refreshments and lunch are available to purchase.

“Armistice 1918”

Dr Stephen Rogers

This course will focus on varied texts associated with the end of the war - including poetry by Wilfred Owen (killed 4th November), Apollinaire (died of Spanish flu 9th November) and Charlotte Mew's poem “The Cenotaph”, Ernest Hemingway's *A Farewell to Arms* - although not an armistice novel says something about transition from war to peace, and sections of Ford Madox Ford's *Parade's End* that describe the day of the armistice.

4 weeks from 19 July – 9 Aug £45

TSAM0418

Discussion Group

Self Help – No Tutor

Students discuss a variety of philosophical and ethical topics, including contemporary moral issues. The group meet every Thursday throughout the summer. No need to pre-book.

19 July- 6 Sept

£1 per session

Gothic Architecture

Tim Parrott

There has never been an architectural style which spread as widely or as fast as the Gothic. If you've reached the point where you think, “same old, same old” when you see a Gothic Cathedral, you may just be in need of a quick round-up of how it works as a structure. A little knowledge of this sort will reawaken your wonder.

19 July

£15

TSGA0118

Dorset Button Making

Lisa Tilley

Dorset Buttons date back to the 16-1800s, when they were worn by field workers and made entirely by cloth allowing them to go through the mangle. Today they can be made around metal rings for sturdiness and are produced with variations of hand stitches. They can be used both decoratively to make jewellery and embellish items as well as practically as buttons in their original form. Suitable for all abilities, materials included.

19 July Max 10.

£20 inc. materials

TSDB0118

Reading Latin Group

Jenny Morris

These sessions are for those who have a knowledge of Latin at an intermediate level (or higher) - that is, about GCSE level. We shall explore a selection of prose and verse texts together as our main activity, with opportunities for guidance on individual reading for a short period each week to allow for differences in experience of reading Latin. The aims above all are to enjoy Latin literature, and also to extend participants' ability to read and appreciate Latin. Texts will be provided, and consist of selections of extracts, thematically grouped. Those considering joining are welcome to contact the tutor (via the REC) for guidance about their level of Latin and/or to be given information about the texts selected.

8 weeks from 19 July £80

TSRL0818

Mono Printing

Caroline Doyle

This course is suitable for both beginner and those who have experience of making art work, printing or otherwise. Mono Printing is the unique technique of producing a one-off print, which also allows spontaneity because of its methods. This course will provide an introduction into the various ways of mark making, developing abstract and / or figurative work inspired by both the external world and own imagination to open, explore and expand individual creativity.

26 July

£15

TSMP0118

The Crystal Palace

Tim Parrott

In the mid-19th century, the Victorians put on what was effectively the first ever World's Fair. To house this gigantic event they put up The Crystal Palace. After the record-breaking show, the building was transferred to Sydenham in South London. This course focuses on the amazing story of how The Crystal Palace was constructed.

26 July

£15

TSCP0118

Bridge Construction for Beginners

Tim Parrott

Since the Victorians put up the Forth Bridge, bridges have entered the public consciousness as iconic features of the modern world. Everyone knows something about how bridges carry their loads. This Thursday session will join up the things you've seen and read, and amaze you with some of the more recent feats.

2 Aug

£15

TSBC0118

Garden Photography

Hemant Jariwala

The morning will be spent building a strong foundation on understanding the process of capturing the beauty of garden design, features and plants, in a photographic image. Garden photography does not require specialist equipment to record private or formal gardens; however, we shall touch on the use of consumer 'point and shoot' compact camera through to enthusiasts' pro-summer equipment.

Effective visual communication skill is the key to successful image making and this is introduced through examples from the tutor's own portfolio from: Wrest Park, Barnsdale Gardens and Chelsea & Hampton Court Flower Shows. Garden photography skill is closely linked with the selection of garden viewpoint, camera craft, image composition and the thought process of a Garden Landscape Designer.

During the afternoon, we shall put the 'theory' into 'practice' – within the grounds of Wrest Park (Silsoe). You will acquire 'ways of seeing' garden vistas and detail features from unusual angles. **Admission of Wrest Park is additional to course cost and it is hoped that own cars (sharing where possible) will be used to travel.**

2 Aug 9.30-4pm

£30

TSGP0118

DNA

Tim Parrott

DNA is the genetic material in eggs and sperm which enables animals and plants to reproduce. The full story of how it achieves this only became known in the 1960s, and the surprise then at how comprehensible it is continues to this day. This two Thursdays' course will reveal the excitement behind this beacon of Popular Science.

9 & 16 Aug

£25

TSDN0218



Photography Workflow Workshop Hemant Jariwala

It was Alfred Stieglitz (1864 – 1946) who said: "The ability to make a truly artistic photograph is not acquired off-hand, but is the result of an artistic instinct coupled with years of labour." Indeed, the popularity of digital imaging – using an iPhone, digital compact camera or a pro-DSLR camera, has become affordable by the majority, with exceptional advancement in technologies over the past 20 years. This 4-session workshop will introduce you to effective image capture/exposure through to the final "print", including the 'Art of Visual Communication'. The skill of communicating through images is introduced through the tutor's own portfolio.

4 weeks from 16 Aug £45 TSPW0418

A Moveable Feast – Paris in the 1920s Dr Stephen Rogers

We will study just one text - Ernest Hemingway's *The Sun Also Rises* (novel) - but a general discussion of the 'Lost Generation' and the writers (Joyce, Pound, Ford, Gertrude Stein) and artists (Picasso, Juan Gris, Modigliani) who were active in Paris in the years immediately following the First World War.

4 weeks from 16 Aug – 6 Sep £45 TSMF0418

How Animals Breathe Tim Parrott

There is amazing variety in the different ways animals have evolved to obtain oxygen. All classes of animal visible to the naked eye rely on oxygen to liberate energy from the food they eat. If you thought lungs and gills made up the whole story, this two Thursdays' presentation will open your eyes to Nature's inventiveness.

23 & 30 Aug £25 TSAB0218

The Fish with Legs: The Emergence of the Land Vertebrates

Tim Parrott

The fish which lived in Devonian times are the ancestors of all the animals with backbones living today, including ourselves and the now extinct dinosaurs. How did a fish leave the water? Why would it want to? Where is the proof? This is one of the Major Transitions in the story of Evolution.

6 Sep £15 TSFL0118



Book on-line at www.recedford.co.uk

Summer Short Courses 10am-1pm
These three-day courses have to be booked in advance and are available for over 18s and non-members.

Refreshments and lunch will be available

6–8 August 2018

Introduction to Bridge Sian Harrison

This 4 session taster course will introduce you to the greatest of card games which is played all over the world, by over 300,000 players in the UK and by many people of all ages in Bedford.

It is designed for those who have never played bridge before (though it may be helpful if you have enjoyed playing other card games). We will start with learning about suits and tricks and partners and dummy and progress to bidding using the Standard English or Acol system. We will learn practically by having fun playing the cards with support and guidance. The rate at which we progress will depend on you and how comfortable you all are at each stage. If there are any members of the course who have joined because they have had a little experience of bridge but feel they would like to refresh their knowledge then I hope they will be happy to start from the beginning – they will be most welcome.

At the end of the four sessions you should be confident and hopefully enthusiastic in playing a sociable game of bridge. You may have met others with whom you would like to continue playing. Or you may wish to join the novices course and learn more here at the REC.

6-9 Aug 4 days 10-1pm £56 SIB04A18

Prehistoric Cave Art of Southern France and Northern Spain Dr Twigs Way

From the first discovery of Altamira in 1870 to Chauvet-Pont-d'Arc in 1994, and the digital creation of Lascaux IV in 2016, cave art has fascinated archaeologists, artists and the general public alike. Met with disbelief when originally presented as the work of prehistoric peoples, cave art revolutionised the perception of stone age life, providing possible insight into complex cultures through the study of their paintings and engravings. But can we ever really know what it all means? As we come face to face with ancient aurochs, swimming reindeer and outlines of prehistoric hands, how do we know who made them and why? Explore images from famous and lesser known caves and examine the history of their discovery and analysis in the company of a tutor who has been fortunate enough to visit most of the originals.

3 Days 10-1pm £65 SPC03A18

Drawing a Portrait in Coloured Pencil David Lewry

Students will be shown the basic techniques for rendering a portrait in coloured pencil from a *photographic source*. Skin tones, eyes, hair, noses and mouths will all be covered in detail. Students may work from their own picture, in which case individual help will be given, or may work along with a project provided by the tutor. No previous experience is necessary although students will be expected to have a reasonable set of coloured pencils of their own to work with. All relevant information and photographic references will be sent by email to be printed off by the students prior to the course.

3 days 10-1pm £42 SDP03A18



6-8 August 2018 cont.

William Hogarth

Dr Gary Day

William Hogarth is best known as a satirist. Most people have heard of *The Rake's Progress* (1732-4) a series of paintings that chart the downfall of a rich young man who spends his fortune on drink, cards and women. But Hogarth was no mere moralist. He also sought to promote a specifically English type of painting, one that captured the lives of ordinary people. While his contemporaries were painting the landed gentry, Hogarth captured the lives of ordinary Londoners in all their grubby, glorious mundanity. What's more, he produced one of the eighteenth century's finest books on the nature of painting called *The Analysis of Beauty* (1753). This course will look at these various aspects of Hogarth and at how he influenced those who came after him.

3 days 10-1pm

£42

SWH03A18

Quantum Mechanics for the Mathematically Innocent

Tim Parrott

Until the 20th century, Physics was the home of hard, unassailable facts. Einstein famously recorded his disgust as more and more researchers argued that Classical Physics had had its day and that probability was now an inescapable part of the physical world. Come and get a flavour of the weird logic that governs the behaviour of atoms, photons and sub-atomic particles. Words cannot rival the rigour of the formulae, but you'll be pleasantly surprised at how far they'll take us.

3 days 10-1pm

£42

SQM03A18

Treasures of The Higgins

Jenny Morris

The Higgins Art Gallery and Museum, just 10 minutes' walk from the REC, was reopened in June 2013 and now serves as a cultural centre as well as being a treasury for the safe keeping and display of numerous bequests and purchases. During our three days together, we shall consider the scope of the collection and a little of its history, but our main focus will be on a selection of the art works and museum artefacts, enabling us to look at them in some depth. On two of the days we shall meet at the Higgins, where special rooms and expertise will be available to us as well as the Higgins' staff expertise* Highlights will include items from the former Bedford Modern School Museum, Greek pots, local Roman finds, some items relating to Bedford local history, and art works from artists as diverse as Edward Bawden, Dora Carrington (a former Rothsay Gardens resident), Turner and Picasso.

**Please note that there will be a nominal extra charge on the day for these visits, mainly for our tea/coffee and biscuits.*

3 days 10-1pm

£42

STH03A18

13-15 August 2018

The English Language

Jenny Morris

Whether you are a native speaker of English or not, you have a mastery of a language whose fascination and foibles can be bewildering, baffling, enchanting and eternally thought provoking. Puns and poetry, advertising copy and instruction manuals in 'translationese' can all prompt reflection on the patterns (or grammar) of English, its quirks, its history, and its expressiveness.

In our 3 days together we shall consider such controversial issues as language variations in English (including dialects, accents, and style) changes in the language, grammar and its role, punctuation and the teaching of English. Participants will

Book on-line at www.recbedford.co.uk

13-15 August 2018 cont.

be invited to discuss these topics and short talks and lectures will also feature. Bill Bryson's book 'Mother Tongue' is recommended for this course, but it is not essential for participants to have a copy.

3 days 10-1pm

£42

SEL03B18

Drawing Portraits from Life

David Lewry

An introductory course for students wishing to experience drawing pencil and charcoal portraits from the live model. There will be a different model each day and practical demonstrations on how to set out the preliminary drawing, capture a likeness and add shading and detail to completion.

Ideal for beginners and those with more experience, the class will be held in a friendly and supportive environment to encourage those who have not experienced drawing from life before. **Limited to 10 students.**

3 days 10-1pm

£55

SPT03B18

Walter Sickert and the Camden Town Group

Dr Gary Day

Named after the area of north London in which the artists Walter Sickert and Spencer Gore lived and painted, the Camden Town Group held just three exhibitions, all at the Carfax Gallery in fashionable St James's, London, in 1911 and 1912. The group dissolved in 1913 but for a period it represented a determined effort by painters to explore new ways of representing the everyday realities of urban life in Edwardian Britain. This course will look mainly at the paintings of Walter Sickert, who some allege to be a good candidate for Jack the Ripper. What is less controversial is that he not only pioneered a kind of documentary realism he was also the bridgehead between Impressionism and Modernism in Britain.

3 days 10-1pm

£42

SWS03B18

Modern British Short Stories

Dr Sharon Priestly

On this discussion-based course, we will analyse and discuss short stories, not as second cousins to the novel, but in recognition that short stories constitute a vibrant literary genre of their own. The focus is on work created by British writers, many of whom have won major literary prizes. Our text is Malcolm Bradbury's *The Penguin Book of Modern British Short Stories*. Authors represented include Kazuo Ishiguro, Rose Tremain, David Lodge and more. The representative stories are of an extremely high standard and should promote stimulating and thought-provoking discussions.

3 days 10-1pm

£42

SBS03B18

Scandi Film

Caroline Bacon

A look at three films from Scandinavia: *The Seventh Seal* (1957); *Babette's Feast* (1987), and *Insomnia* (1997).

3 days 10-1pm

£34

SFS03B18

Water, Water, Everywhere

Dr Twigs Way

Explore the history of water features in garden and landscape designed from the glory of renaissance fountains to the spreading water of Capability Brown lakes and the modern cascades at Chatsworth. Investigate how water was brought to gardens before electric pumping, and ponder the fashions for rills, lily ponds, lakes, basins, canals, and 'pissing boys', not forgetting turning water into wine. Is water essential for good



13-15 August 2018 cont.

garden design or do frogs and flies mar all? Two mornings in class and the 3rd day at Wrest Park with the tutor looking at the history of the water features.

Fee does not include travel (car shares) or entry to Wrest Park. (c£10 or free entry for EH members or Arts Fund members)

2 days 10-1pm 3rd day visit £65 **SWW03B18**

20 – 22 August 2018

Freedom: A Philosophical Approach **Jenny Morris**

In this course we take a philosophical approach to freedom in various contexts in society. We shall read and discuss John Stuart Mill's classic essay 'On liberty', and consider issues arising from it, including its ongoing relevance to many of the debates of the present. Other philosophers' ideas and arguments on liberty and restrictions upon it will also be introduced and debated. It would be helpful to have a copy of Mill's essay to hand: it is widely available both free online and in numerous print editions. No previous experience of academic Philosophy is expected, but participants should expect texts and topics to be challenging (in a good way!)

3 days 10-1pm £42 **SPA03C18**

How Have the World's Most Beautiful Buildings Lasted So Long? **Tim Parrott**

This 3-morning course will take a look at some of the most beautiful buildings surviving today. How often have you felt that your response to a building has been inhibited by your confusion over the structure before you? Are those buttresses functional, or should I try to ignore them? You'll be surprised at how a very basic tool-kit can enable you to see a structure for what it is, and then to enjoy it all the more.

3 days 10-1pm £42 **SBB03C18**

Diamonds & Sparkle: A Closer Look at Nancy Mitford's *Love in a Cold Climate* **Margaret Norwich**

An opportunity to revisit this enchanting but subversive story of love, attraction and intrigue within the British aristocracy in the 1940's, with characters so memorable and so finely drawn, that a kiss and a shiver became the most popular charade even at royal parties, for years to come! Bright, sparkling and tender: the perfect summer read!

3 days 10-1pm £42 **SDS03C18**

Imagined Gardens: The Borders Between Truth and Fiction **Dr Twigs Way**

Not all gardeners write, or all writers garden, but when they do there is an inevitable overlap between the gardens they create in words and those they tend in reality. This summer course will explore that often unsuspected reality in writers (and poets) from the Elizabethan to Modern. Commencing with the poet Andrew Marvell and the gardens of his patron Lord Fairfax we will detect similarities on truth and fiction from the masters of crime and romance through children's literature and comedy. Writers will include Daphne du Maurier, Beverly Nichols, Elizabeth von Arnim, Agatha Christie, Virginia Woolf, P G Wodehouse, Lucy Boston, E.F. Benson, with an honourable mention of Jane Austen, always with the focus of comparing their real gardens with supposedly fictional appearances.

20 – 22 August 2018 cont.

Two mornings in Class with the third a trip to Hemingford Grey Manor House (and garden) home of Lucy Boston author of the Green Know series. Own transport/ car share. **Admission included in course price**

2 days 10-1pm 3rd day visit £80 **SIG03C18**

Mixed Media Drawing and Design Development for Textile Design and Other Art Forms. **Lisa Tilley**

Explore design processes by learning how to experiment with various materials & techniques to draw and develop design ideas. Aimed at getting over the dreaded white page and loosening up one's drawing skills, this is an experimental workshop whereby a varied range of materials and techniques are used. Learners will be able to use processes such as batik, mono printing and embroidery in order to draw and design in a very unique way.

It is essential that learners bring objects and photographs/pictures from books and magazines to gain inspiration from and are encouraged to bring any everyday materials that can reflect their inspiration. This could be anything from old fabrics, kitchen foil, coloured & patterned papers, plastics, beads etc. It could be anything and everything that interests and inspires you. Suitable for all abilities. Materials included. **Max 10 students**

3 days 10-1pm £52 inc material **SMM03C18**

Neo Romantics **Caroline Bacon**

Around WWII contemporary art critics identified a new art movement they termed Neo-Romanticism that paid homage to the past works of Blake and Palmer, while influenced by Surrealism and Abstract art. Artists such as Nash, Sutherland, Piper, Craxton and Minton delivered poetic visions of landscape and a 'sense of place' infused with the unease of impending war and an optimism in its aftermath.

3 days 10-1pm £42 **SNR03C18**

Notes: