

You will find that some courses are only available for WEA members at this time, as part of member's priority booking. Courses will become available for all at 11 am on Wednesday 3rd July. Alternatively, become a WEA member today to book right away. Click on the 'Become a member' link at the top of the page.

Early booking is a membership perk for WEA members, where courses are available exclusively before becoming available for everyone else.

Got it!

Course details

Course title

British Novels in the 70s and 80s (Part 2)

Course code

Q00017376

Course date

Start: 08/01/25

End: 19/03/25

Number of classes

10 sessions

Timetable

Wed 8th Jan, 14:15 to 16:15

Wed 15th Jan, 14:15 to 16:15

Wed 22nd Jan, 14:15 to 16:15

Wed 29th Jan, 14:15 to 16:15

Wed 5th Feb, 14:15 to 16:15

Wed 12th Feb, 14:15 to 16:15

Wed 26th Feb, 14:15 to 16:15

Wed 5th Mar, 14:15 to 16:15

Wed 12th Mar, 14:15 to 16:15

Wed 19th Mar, 14:15 to 16:15

Branch

Barnes Branch

Tutor

Stephen Smith

Fee range

Free to £100.00

How you'll learn

You'll join a small group of fellow learners for classes at the venue indicated. Some materials may be provided in our virtual learning environment.

Got it!

In venue

Venue

Rose House (London)
70 Barnes High Street
London
SW13 9LD

Level of study

Beginners

Course overview

This course will consider and analyse the following authors and their texts. These are: *Strange Meeting* - Susan Hill. *So Long Hector Bebb* - Ron Berry. *Flaubert's Parrot* - Julian Barnes. *The Remains of the Day* - Kazuo Ishiguro. *Innocence* - Penelope Fitzgerald. These texts will provide a window into the different regions of Britain during two decades of major change in the social fabric and political nature of Britain, though several of our texts will trace these changes back to the earlier part of the twentieth century, and in doing so, we will encounter themes of identity, class and the decline of Empire. There will be much to prompt discussion and challenge our assumptions.

Course description

This course delves into the literary landscapes of Britain through the exploration of five seminal texts: *Strange Meeting* by Susan Hill, *So Long Hector Bebb* by Ron Berry, *Flaubert's Parrot* by Julian Barnes, *The Remains of the Day* by Kazuo Ishiguro, and *Innocence* by Penelope Fitzgerald. Spanning two transformative decades in British history, these works serve as a prism through which we examine the shifting social fabric and political landscape of the nation.

Through close reading and critical analysis, students will explore how these authors address themes of identity, class, and the decline of the British Empire. We will trace the influence of earlier twentieth-century events on these narratives and reflect on how they shape contemporary British society. Each text offers a unique perspective on the diverse regions of Britain, fostering a deeper understanding of the cultural and historical contexts that underpin these stories.

Discussions will challenge our assumptions and prompt us to consider the complexities of British identity during periods of significant change. This course is designed for students interested in literature, history, and cultural studies, providing a rich foundation for understanding the interplay between literature and societal transformation. By the end of the course, students will have a nuanced appreciation of the literary depiction of Britain's evolving identity.

What financial support is available?

We don't want anything to stand in your way when it comes to bringing Adult learning within reach so if you need anything to support you to achieve your goals then speak to one of our education experts during your enrolment journey. Most of our courses are government funded but if you don't qualify or need alternative financial help to access them then let us know.

What other support is available?

All of our digital content, teaching and learning activities and assessments are designed to be accessible so if you need any additional support you can discuss this with the education experts during your enrolment journey and we will do all we can to make sure you have optimal access.

Source URL: <https://www.wea.org.uk/courses/languages-culture/literature/8-january-british-novels-70s-and-80s-part-2>