

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

Art Appreciation: Art and the Arts in 1960s

Course code

Q00017378

Course date

Start: 15/05/25

End: 19/06/25

Number of classes

6 sessions

Timetable

Thu 15th May, 10:30 to 12:30

Thu 22nd May, 10:30 to 12:30

Thu 29th May, 10:30 to 12:30

Thu 5th Jun, 10:30 to 12:30

Thu 12th Jun, 10:30 to 12:30

Thu 19th Jun, 10:30 to 12:30

Branch

Enfield and Southgate Branch

Tutor

Colin Lomas

Fee range

Free to £72.00

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

Enfield Baptist Church (Enfield) (Enfiel

Cecil Road

Enfield

EN2 6TG

Course overview

An oversimplified view but still a very useful one is that in the 1950s there was still largely a respect for “tradition”. By contrast the 1960s saw challenges to all traditions and conventions. In many areas of public and private life, traditional conventions were challenged. In the theatre world, “kitchen sink drama” appeared. In the visual arts, artists produced even more abstract individualistic products, with “installations” replacing paintings and sculpture. Music became even more experimental. In the course, these developments and many others will be illustrated, including projects of the decade which we still enjoy.

Course description

The 1960s was a decade of profound change and challenge, marked by a dramatic shift from the respect for tradition that characterized the 1950s. This course explores how this era revolutionized public and private life, as artists, musicians, and writers broke away from conventional norms to explore new, uncharted territories of expression.

In the theatre world, the emergence of "kitchen sink drama" brought gritty, realistic portrayals of everyday life to the stage, challenging the more polished and idealized productions of the previous decade. In the visual arts, the 1960s saw the rise of abstract and individualistic works, with installations often replacing traditional paintings and sculptures. Music, too, became more experimental, reflecting and contributing to the decade's dynamic and transformative spirit.

Throughout the course, students will examine these and other significant developments in the arts during the 1960s. Weekly presentations will showcase key projects from the decade, including those that continue to influence and inspire contemporary culture. By exploring the radical shifts in artistic expression during this period, students will gain a deep understanding of how the 1960s challenged and reshaped the artistic landscape, leaving a lasting legacy that we still enjoy today.

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/art-history/15-may-art-appreciation-art-and-arts-1960s>