

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

Literature: British Literature in the Belle Epoque.

Course code

Q00017457

Course date

Start: 16/09/24

End: 25/11/24

Number of classes

11 sessions

Timetable

Mon 16th Sep, 19:00 to 21:00

Mon 23rd Sep, 19:00 to 21:00

Mon 30th Sep, 19:00 to 21:00

Mon 7th Oct, 19:00 to 21:00

Mon 14th Oct, 19:00 to 21:00
Mon 21st Oct, 19:00 to 21:00
Mon 28th Oct, 19:00 to 21:00
Mon 4th Nov, 19:00 to 21:00
Mon 11th Nov, 19:00 to 21:00
Mon 18th Nov, 19:00 to 21:00
Mon 25th Nov, 19:00 to 21:00

Tutor

Stephen Smith

Fee range

Free to £74.00

How you'll learn

You'll join a small group of fellow learners for classes online in video meetings and materials will be provided in our virtual learning environment.

Got it!

Online

Venue

Online

Level of study

Beginners

Course overview

This course will explore four novels: *The Turn of the Screw* by Henry James; *Wind in the Willows* by Kenneth Grahame; *Sons and Lovers* by D.H. Lawrence; *The Good Soldier* by Ford Madox Ford, and the work of one poet, Thomas Hardy, specifically *Poems 1912-1913*, a record of his reactions to the death of his first wife. We will discuss the end of Empire, the rise of Modernism and Feminism and psychological study, and the political situation leading up to 1914 and changing perceptions of

individual and national identity. There will be ample opportunity for discussion and a chance to reassess what may in some instances be familiar texts.

Course description

We will begin our discussion with *The Turn of the Screw* and discuss its perception of the ghost story genre, the roles assigned to women and the emerging practice of psychoanalysis. Our second text, *Wind in the Willows*, long known as a children's book, will reveal to us that it is in fact an elaborate form of social commentary on late Victorian Britain, and we will discover those emerging concerns which related to class in that era.

When we turn to Lawrence, we will trace the continuation of the emerging movement towards suffrage and relate this to the earlier positions of women glimpsed in James' text. We will aim to restore Lawrence to his position as a subtle interpreter of the social situation in the Edwardian novel. This concern with social positions and hierarchies will continue into Ford's text, and here we shall speculate about the rise of Modernism, before we arrive at Hardy's poetry and evaluate his role as a bridge between the Victorian Age and the new Modernist poets.

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.

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