

Course details

Course title

Literature: Strange Worlds in Twentieth Century Fiction

Course code

Q00017462

Course date

Start: 16/09/24

End: 25/11/24

Number of classes

11 sessions

Timetable

Mon 16th Sep, 10:00 to 12:00

Mon 23rd Sep, 10:00 to 12:00

Mon 30th Sep, 10:00 to 12:00

Mon 7th Oct, 10:00 to 12:00

Mon 14th Oct, 10:00 to 12:00

Mon 21st Oct, 10:00 to 12:00

Mon 28th Oct, 10:00 to 12:00

Mon 4th Nov, 10:00 to 12:00

Mon 11th Nov, 10:00 to 12:00

Mon 18th Nov, 10:00 to 12:00

Mon 25th Nov, 10:00 to 12:00

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 discover five texts ranging across twentieth century European and British literatures. The texts are: *Stories from the City of God* by Pier Paolo Pasolini; *Baron Bagge* by Alexander Lernet-Holenia; *Forbidden Notebook* by Alba de Cespedes; *The Hundred and Ninety-Nine Steps* by Michel Faber and *Cloud Atlas* by David Mitchell. These texts include essays, novellas and novels are by turn extravagant fantasies and profound social commentaries on the last unlovely century. There will be ample scope for discussion of issues such as class identities, social and political identities and the desire to create stories to explore the nature of the mutable worlds of the twentieth century.

Course description

These texts will afford us glimpses into the minds of writers spread across Europe in the twentieth century, which has seen political and social upheaval and prompted analysis and at times elaborate and fantastical reinventions of known or supposedly known worlds.

We will experience post-war Rome with Pasolini and explore his relationship with his sexuality and his class, while in the work of Lernet-Holenia, we will discover the passage of the

world of war into another stranger realm.

When we encounter Alba de Cespedes, we will meet with a woman, who repressed by Italian Fascism sought to create her own credo by which to live. It is an important document of Italian feminism and is now being rediscovered.

Our final two texts are those of British writers, both of whom are experimental but fascinating in their style and narrative concerns.

Discussion will focus on the author's lives, contexts and their negotiations with their contemporary worlds, which will involve their involvement with feminism, modernism and postmodernism. Each text will reveal an exciting and innovative voice, as each author rightly belongs to the emerging canon of twentieth century literature.

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/16-september-literature-strange-worlds-twentieth-century>