

Course details

Course title

History: The Rise and Fall of Wessex

Course code

Q00017279

Course date

Start: 24/09/24

End: 08/10/24

Number of classes

3 sessions

Timetable

Tue 24th Sep, 14:00 to 16:00

Tue 1st Oct, 14:00 to 16:00

Tue 8th Oct, 14:00 to 16:00

Branch

Wokingham and District

Tutor

Guest Speaker

Fee range

Free to £30.00

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

The Cornerstone (Wokingham)
Norreys Avenue
Wokingham
RG40 1UE

Level of study

Beginners

Course overview

Wessex no longer exists yet its name still conjures images of Alfred the Great and the creation of England. The choice by Thomas Hardy of using Wessex as the fictional literary landscape of his novels further embeds this feeling of nostalgic association that people have. This course explores its creation and demise and why it still lives in our memory partly as a result of its historical significance but also because the sentimental effect of its name is consistently being used by advertisers and organisations to create a positive connection with customers and the public.

Course description

For over 400 years the Kingdom of Wessex dominated Anglo-Saxon Britain. This course explores how the Kingdom was created and its significance in laying the foundations of modern day England. It will cover how Britain emerged from the Dark Ages which followed the departure of the Romans in the 5th Century AD; how Wessex became the last bastion of resistance against the marauding Vikings; how England briefly became a province of the King of Norway before reverting to its Anglo- Saxon lineage. Whilst the Kingdom of Wessex finally became a subset of the Kingdom of England, Winchester remained Capital and a leading light in the spread of Christianity and culture. Following his invasion, William the Conqueror moved his Royal Centre to London, nevertheless Winchester and what had been Wessex continued to be significant right up to and beyond the Reformation. This turbulent period of history covered the Anarchy of Stephen and Matilda, The Black Death and finally The English Civil Wars. Each of these events will be covered in the course. To complement the lectures, students will be able to handle artefacts for each of the periods discussed. Not only will students gain an appreciation of the significance of Wessex, they will be also be introduced to its archaeology.

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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