



Course details

Course title

Literature: Gissing and Zola – further studies in 19th century naturalist fiction

Course code

Q00017844

Course date

Start: 09/01/25

End: 03/04/25

Number of classes

13 sessions

Timetable

Thu 9th Jan, 15:00 to 17:00

Thu 16th Jan, 15:00 to 17:00

Thu 23rd Jan, 15:00 to 17:00

Thu 30th Jan, 15:00 to 17:00

Thu 6th Feb, 15:00 to 17:00

Thu 13th Feb, 15:00 to 17:00

Thu 20th Feb, 15:00 to 17:00

Thu 27th Feb, 15:00 to 17:00

Thu 6th Mar, 15:00 to 17:00

Thu 13th Mar, 15:00 to 17:00

Thu 20th Mar, 15:00 to 17:00

Thu 27th Mar, 15:00 to 17:00

Thu 3rd Apr, 15:00 to 17:00

Tutor

Greta Depledge

Fee range

Free to £81.60

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 look at a range of novels by late 19th century naturalist writers George Gissing and Emile Zola. Zola is seen as the leading exponent of French naturalist fiction and Gissing is often classified as an English naturalist writer. Naturalism is a literary genre that considers human character as being determined by environment, social conditions and evolution. Naturalism is similar to realism in that both genres focus on social commentary, they reject romanticism, but naturalism emphasises scientific objectivism. The novels we will study are Zola's: *The Earth* (1887); *La Bête Humaine* (1890); *L'Assommoir* (1877) and Gissing's: *The Odd Women* (1893); *The Nether World* (1889); *The Whirlpool* (1897).

Course description

This course will take place over 12 weeks and will look at two authors – Emile Zola and George Gissing who are both considered writers of naturalism fiction. Zola was a leading exponent of French naturalist fiction and Gissing was often classified as an English naturalist writer. Naturalism is a literary genre that considers human character as being determined by environment, social conditions and evolution. Naturalism is similar to realism in that both genres focus on social commentary, they rejected romanticism but naturalism emphasises scientific objectivism.

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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