

Course details

Course title

Literature: The Ghost Stories of M. R. James

Course code

Q00018856

Course date

Start: 01/10/24

End: 19/11/24

Number of classes

8 sessions

Timetable

Tue 1st Oct, 18:00 to 20:30

Tue 8th Oct, 18:00 to 20:30

Tue 15th Oct, 18:00 to 20:30

Tue 22nd Oct, 18:00 to 20:30

Tue 29th Oct, 18:00 to 20:30

Tue 5th Nov, 18:00 to 20:30

Tue 12th Nov, 18:00 to 20:30

Tue 19th Nov, 18:00 to 20:30

Branch

Norwich

Tutor

Joseph Williams

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

Human beings have told each other stories about ghosts since the ancient times, but the ghost story as we know it was created by the writer and scholar M. R. James (1862-1936). At Christmas, James would read his stories aloud to friends and colleagues at the University of Cambridge. The BBC began adapting James's stories in 1971 as part of their 'Ghost Story for Christmas' series. In this course we will look at seven of James's most famous and enjoyed stories, a number of which were adapted by the BBC. We will consider each story on its own, looking at James's use of suspense and humour. How does James write a ghost story? Are they scary? And, most of all, what are we scared of? No previous knowledge of ghost stories is necessary – everybody is most welcome!

Course description

Human beings have told each other stories about ghosts since the ancient times, but the ghost story as we know it was created by the writer and scholar M. R. James (1862-1936). At Christmas, James would read his stories aloud to friends and colleagues at the University of Cambridge. The BBC began adapting James's stories in 1971 as part of their 'Ghost Story for Christmas' series.

The stories we will look at are:

'Canon Alberic's Scrap-Book'

'Oh, Whistle, and I'll Come to You, My Lad'

'The Mezzotint'

'Number 13'

'Casting the Runes'

'A Warning to the Curious'

'The Stalls of Barchester Cathedral'

We will consider each story on its own, looking at James's use of suspense and humour. How does James write a ghost story? Are they scary? And, most of all, what are we scared of?

No previous knowledge of ghost stories is necessary – everybody is most welcome!

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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