



Course details

Course title

Art Appreciation: Vincent van Gogh – A short career of enormous significance

Course code

Q00019205

Course date

Start: 07/01/25

End: 28/01/25

Number of classes

4 sessions

Timetable

Tue 7th Jan, 14:00 to 16:00

Tue 14th Jan, 14:00 to 16:00

Tue 21st Jan, 14:00 to 16:00

Tue 28th Jan, 14:00 to 16:00

Tutor

Caroline Levisse

Fee range

Free to £29.60

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

In this course, we will focus on an extraordinary artist, well-loved from today's public: Vincent van Gogh. You will learn about his Dutch origins, his interests and friendships while in Paris, the dreams he nurtured in Arles, and, his last months in Auvers-sur-Oise. As we study the main phases in his life, we will study key examples of his paintings and drawings to better understand his artistic identity. What was the purpose of painting for him? Why did he paint with bright colours and thick brushstrokes? We will seek to understand van Gogh's art not simply in light of his own mindset, but also in light of the wider cultural context he was part of.

Course description

This course aims to deepen your understanding of Vincent van Gogh's works. You will learn about his Dutch origins, his interests and friendships while in Paris, the dreams he nurtured in Arles, and, his last months in Auvers-sur-Oise. For each phase, we will identify key works of art and connections with other artists. We will see his colours and brush-work evolve in the short period he was a painter. As we study his style and subject matters, we will interpret his paintings in terms of the artist's vision and ideas. We will also interpret them in terms of their connection to a wider cultural context. Looking at Monet, Monticelli, Seurat, Bernard, Gauguin... Vincent van Gogh's art is at the border between two 19th century art movements, Naturalism and Symbolism.

We will conclude the course looking into the way his art was received, in his lifetime (he only sold two paintings while he was alive) and throughout the 20th century, eventually reaching an incredible popularity. We will focus on the role his sister-in-law, Jo, played in promoting his art after Vincent's premature death.

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/art-history/7-january-art-appreciation-vincent-van-gogh-short-career>