



Course details

Course title

Art Appreciation: Vincent van Gogh and Nature

Course code

Q00018757

Course date

Start: 21/09/24

End: 21/09/24

Number of classes

1 sessions

Timetable

Sat 21st Sep, 10:00 to 12:00

Branch

Tonbridge

Tutor

Caroline Levisse

Fee range

Free to £8.40

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

As the National Gallery stages an exhibition of van Gogh's paintings in the Autumn, it is a good occasion to deepen our understanding of the Dutch master's art. In this session, we will look at the central role and place given to the natural world in his paintings. In this session we will focus on a specific group of paintings, representing a variety of flowers, skies, fields, blossoming trees, and more. As we discover what meaning van Gogh imbued the natural world with, we will also look at the colours, lines, and brushwork.

Course description

In a letter sent from London in 1874 Vincent van Gogh wrote: "Always continue walking a lot and loving nature, for that's the real way to learn to understand art better and better. Painters understand nature and love it, and teach us to see."

As the National Gallery stages an exhibition of van Gogh's paintings in the Autumn, it is a good occasion to deepen our understanding of the Dutch master's art. In this session, we will look at the central role and place given to the natural world in his paintings.

We will take a chronological approach and first see how nature as a subject was treated in his early Dutch paintings, with a dark and muted palette. As he arrived in Paris and became acquainted with Impressionist painting, his own works became more colourful. In Paris he sought out nature: in cut flowers, urban parks, and Montmartre's allotments. We will then follow his to Arles, where, at first, he wanted to see the blossoming orchards. There again, whether it was cypresses, great clouds and stars in the sky, or the irises in the hospital's courtyard, he spent a lot of time observing and painting nature. We will conclude with some poignant paintings of fields dominated with stormy skies, painted just before his 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.

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