



Course details

Course title

British Nature Writing in the Twentieth Century

Course code

Q00017888

Course date

Start: 13/01/25

End: 24/03/25

Number of classes

10 sessions

Timetable

Mon 13th Jan, 14:00 to 16:00

Mon 20th Jan, 14:00 to 16:00

Mon 27th Jan, 14:00 to 16:00

Mon 3rd Feb, 14:00 to 16:00

Mon 10th Feb, 14:00 to 16:00

Mon 24th Feb, 14:00 to 16:00

Mon 3rd Mar, 14:00 to 16:00

Mon 10th Mar, 14:00 to 16:00

Mon 17th Mar, 14:00 to 16:00

Mon 24th Mar, 14:00 to 16:00

Tutor

Stephen Smith

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

During this course we will explore the course of British Nature writing from the late nineteenth century until the early years of the twenty-first century. Our writers will include W.H. Hudson, Kenneth Grahame, Richard Mabey, Mark Cocker, Roger Deakin, Robert Macfarlane, Nan Shephard, Kathleen Jamie and a host of others. We will discover how the concerns and agendas of British Nature Writing have evolved over time towards the present and the rise of the Deep Ecology Movement and its writings. There will be ample scope for discussion and close reading of the chosen texts, and opportunity to analyse what, in some instances are, controversial ideas.

Course description

British writing has consistently displayed an affinity with the natural world's geography, topography and flora and fauna. Indeed the lyrical tradition of English poetry, with its melancholic cast exemplifies this, and we will refer to this poetic tradition in our examination of Edward Thomas and Ted Hughes. The first Thomas, will take us into the territory of the seismic change wrought on the British landscape by the fallout from the Great War.

The course will explore additionally the various palimpsests that have overlaid the natural world, seeing it as spiritual, an emblem for transience and melancholy and rebirth.

Naturally many of our writers were naturalists, and we will discover how the naturalist's eye has evolved in the last century, as ecological concerns have become more pressing.

The authors selected will each exemplify different concerns and different styles, and will be seen to reflect a diversity of responses to the natural world, as well as reflecting the different expectations of that world, individuals and society has had in the last one hundred years. In this respect certain movements such as the Ramblers, the National Trust and the National Parks will cross our eyes and involve us in a discussion about the politicisation of Nature.

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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