



Course details

Course title

Literature: Writers of the Second World War

Course code

Q00017894

Course date

Start: 13/01/25

End: 24/03/25

Number of classes

10 sessions

Timetable

Mon 13th Jan, 19:00 to 21:00

Mon 20th Jan, 19:00 to 21:00

Mon 27th Jan, 19:00 to 21:00

Mon 3rd Feb, 19:00 to 21:00

Mon 10th Feb, 19:00 to 21:00

Mon 24th Feb, 19:00 to 21:00

Mon 3rd Mar, 19:00 to 21:00

Mon 10th Mar, 19:00 to 21:00

Mon 17th Mar, 19:00 to 21:00

Mon 24th Mar, 19:00 to 21:00

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

Literature: Writers of the Second World War is designed to introduce individuals to the literature that depicts the experiences and impact of the Second World War. This course covers key authors and works from the period, exploring their themes, contexts, and significance in literary history. Participants will read and analyse selected texts, learning about the historical and cultural backgrounds that influenced these works. The course includes lectures, discussions, and reading assignments that encourage critical thinking and deeper understanding of Second World War literature. By the end of the course, participants will have a comprehensive knowledge of the literature of the Second World War and its significance in the broader context of literary history. This course is ideal for literature enthusiasts and history buffs looking to explore the literature of the Second World War.

Course description

In Britain the literature of the Great War has tended to eclipse our knowledge of those writers associated with WW2. This course will seek to redress this perception, and to extend its remit beyond Britain to consider the responses of European writers to the 1939-45 conflict. Thus, we will explain German, French, Russian and East European authors, considering extracts drawn from a range of poetry and prose.

The course will reintroduce you to names you will be familiar with, as well as introducing you to others that you may not have encountered. Our authors will be both contemporary authors of the period and more recent authors considering the past retrospectively.

Authors will include: Evelyn Waugh, Elizabeth Bowen, Alun Lewis, Keith Douglas, Dylan Thomas, J.B. Priestly, Czeslaw Milosz, Anna Akhmatova, Henrich Boll, Primo Levi, and WG Sebald among many others, and these writers will bring into focus profound questions regarding identity, moral and ethical philosophy, and the erosion of individual and societal rights in totalitarian regimes.

The course will encourage you to discuss each chosen extract and will encourage you to further research into writers and themes. There is much to discuss in what will be lively classes.

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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