



Course details

Course title

History: When Peace broke out-the austerity years 1945-1951

Course code

Q00019815

Course date

Start: 22/04/25

End: 27/05/25

Number of classes

6 sessions

Timetable

Tue 22nd Apr, 10:00 to 12:00

Tue 29th Apr, 10:00 to 12:00

Tue 6th May, 10:00 to 12:00

Tue 13th May, 10:00 to 12:00

Tue 20th May, 10:00 to 12:00

Tue 27th May, 10:00 to 12:00

Tutor

Kate Antoniou

Fee range

Free to £44.40

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

From the viewpoint of 80 years after the end of the second world war this six -week course will allow learners to revisit the immediate post war world. We will examine the transformation of Britain from May 1945 through to 1951. The course will cover the pivotal 1945 general election, the extensive social changes, (including the establishment of the NHS and the welfare state) and the economic challenges faced by the country during the austerity years. Through a combination of secondary and primary source analysis, and discussions, students will gain a comprehensive understanding of how the immediate post-war period shaped modern Britain. This course is funded by Greater London Combined Authority.

Course description

Starting with an overview of Britain on VE Day we will be examining the state of the nation and delving into evidence on the morale and expectation of the population using contemporary newspapers and reports. The lead-up to the landslide 1945 General Election will be covered, discussing, and analysing the key issues and campaign promises and reasons for the labour victory and its implications.

Further sessions will cover the economic situation after 1945, the huge debt burden and the struggle to rebuild and nationalise key industries.

The Austerity years saw the establishment of the welfare state and the implementation of the Beveridge Report. What were the key reforms and what has been the long-term impact on British society?

What can we learn from culture at the time that gives us some insight into the changes taking place and people's attitudes? We will be looking at how the media, and the arts reflect this.

Lastly, we will focus on the gradual political shift which leads to the 1951 election and the gradual move away from austerity, and reflect on the period and its legacy in modern Britain

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/humanities-science/history/22-april-history-when-peace-broke-out-austerity-years-1945-1951>