



Course details

Course title

History: The Big Questions

Course code

Q00019811

Course date

Start: 23/01/25

End: 03/04/25

Number of classes

10 sessions

Timetable

Thu 23rd Jan, 14:00 to 16:00

Thu 30th Jan, 14:00 to 16:00

Thu 6th Feb, 14:00 to 16:00

Thu 13th Feb, 14:00 to 16:00

Thu 27th Feb, 14:00 to 16:00

Thu 6th Mar, 14:00 to 16:00

Thu 13th Mar, 14:00 to 16:00

Thu 20th Mar, 14:00 to 16:00

Thu 27th Mar, 14:00 to 16:00

Thu 3rd Apr, 14:00 to 16:00

Branch

Ilford and Gants Hill

Tutor

Brandon Robshaw

Fee range

Free to £84.00

How you'll learn

You'll join a small group of fellow learners for classes at the venue indicated. Some materials may be provided in our virtual learning environment.

Got it!

In venue

Venue

Redbridge Institute of Adult Education (
Gaysham Avenue
Gants Hill
Ilford
IG2 6TD

Level of study

Beginners

Course overview

One of the most fascinating aspects of the history of ideas is learning how ideas have a life of their own, influencing society and culture through successive generations in different ways. In this 10-week course we'll focus on an different important and influential question each week. We cover philosophy, literature, science and history. We'll read and discuss selected extracts which will be circulated beforehand. The course covers a sweep of over 2000 years, from the ancient Greeks to modern times. This course is funded by Greater London Combined Authority.

Course description

Each session will cover a different big question or idea that has been influential throughout history. The questions include: what is the meaning of Plato's allegory of the cave?; what is the scientific method?; what can we learn from The Pilgrim's Progress?; can one love the art but hate the artist?; what is nihilism?; why read Orwell?; what is invented tradition?; and what is the point of cryptic crosswords? Selected readings will be circulated before each class so you can prepare your thoughts in advance. The course is very much centred on participation from learners, and there will be opportunities for you to suggest additional topics for sessions. You'll gain an understanding of the ideas of different philosophers, thinkers and writers, and be stimulated to pursue further reading of your own. This is a course for everyone who enjoys good-natured debate and wants to exercise their brain. And of course, tea and biscuits feature in every class.

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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