



## Course details

### Course title

Literature: Modern American Jewish Fiction

### Course code

Q00021058

### Course date

Start: 14/01/25

End: 28/01/25

### Number of classes

3 sessions

### Timetable

Tue 14th Jan, 10:00 to 12:00

Tue 21st Jan, 10:00 to 12:00

Tue 28th Jan, 10:00 to 12:00

### Branch

Danbury and Little Baddow

### Tutor

Guest Speaker

### Fee range

Free to £25.20

### 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**

St John the Baptist Church Meeting Room  
55 Main Road  
Danbury  
CM3 4NG

## **Level of study**

Beginners

## **Course overview**

This course, with Abbie Saunders, aims to provide a general literary overview of American Jewish fiction since 1945. We will consider how some of the cultural, political and socioeconomic factors affecting American Jews in the C20th have culminated in modern novels, by focalising our understanding of American Jewish identity through works by Philip Roth and Michael Chabon.

## **Course description**

This course, led by Abbie Saunders, provides an overview of American Jewish fiction since 1945, exploring how cultural, political, and socioeconomic factors have shaped Jewish identity in modern novels. Focusing on the works of Philip Roth and Michael Chabon, we will analyse how these authors reflect key themes in post-war Jewish-American life, including immigration, assimilation, and the legacy of the Holocaust.

Through the lens of their fiction, we will explore the complexities of Jewish identity, the tension between tradition and modernity, and the challenges of maintaining cultural heritage in a multicultural society. Roth and Chabon's characters wrestle with the realities of assimilation, the impact of historical trauma, and their evolving place within American society. The course will also examine how humour, irony, and historical context shape their narratives.

By studying these seminal authors, the course offers a deeper understanding of the Jewish-American experience in the 20th and 21st centuries. We will consider how their works capture broader cultural shifts and contribute to the ongoing conversation about identity, belonging, and the place of Jewish-Americans in contemporary literature. This examination will provide valuable insights into how literature reflects societal change and the complexities of cultural identity.

## **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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