

Course details

Course title

Literature: Rediscovering Women Authors: Two comic novels by Angela Thirkell

Course code

Q00009199

Course date

Start: 18/04/24

End: 23/05/24

Number of classes

6 sessions

Timetable

Thu 18th Apr, 11:00 to 13:00

Thu 25th Apr, 11:00 to 13:00

Thu 2nd May, 11:00 to 13:00

Thu 9th May, 11:00 to 13:00

Thu 16th May, 11:00 to 13:00

Thu 23rd May, 11:00 to 13:00

Tutor

Kim Shahabudin

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

Advanced

Course overview

In this course we will read and discuss books by an author who excelled at comic writing and whose books have mostly been overlooked in recent years. Angela Thirkell's novels, set in Anthony Trollope's fictional county of Barsetshire, offer a gently satirical take on social mores and pretensions in upper and middle-class society of the 1930s and 1940s. We will be focusing on two comic novels: *High Rising* (1933) and *Northbridge Rectory* (1941). Through friendly and accessible discussions of both texts, we will learn more about their stories, characters and themes, and consider the nature of their author's distinctive comic voice.

Course description

In this course we will read and discuss two books by an author who excelled at comic writing and whose books have mostly been overlooked in recent years. Angela Thirkell's novels, set in Anthony Trollope's fictional county of Barsetshire, offer a gently satirical take on social mores and pretensions in upper and middle-class society of the 1930s and 1940s.

We will be focusing on two comic novels: *High Rising* (1933) and *Northbridge Rectory* (1941). *High Rising* is the first of Thirkell's Barsetshire novels, introducing characters and settings which would recur through a total of 28 connected books; *Northbridge Rectory* sets its cast in a Barsetshire village in wartime. In both books, Thirkell takes a sideways comic glance at a range of characters from the English upper middle classes.

Through friendly and accessible discussions of both texts, we will learn more about their stories, characters and themes, and consider the nature of their author's distinctive comic voice. While you will get the most from the course by reading the books in their entirety, short extracts for discussion will be downloadable from Canvas, where links to further reading will also be provided for those who wish to extend their learning.

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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