

Course details

Course title

Literature: A Feast of Fiction (Part 1)

Course code

Q00017552

Course date

Start: 24/09/24

End: 03/12/24

Number of classes

10 sessions

Timetable

Tue 24th Sep, 15:30 to 17:30

Tue 1st Oct, 15:30 to 17:30

Tue 8th Oct, 15:30 to 17:30

Tue 15th Oct, 15:30 to 17:30

Tue 22nd Oct, 15:30 to 17:30

Tue 5th Nov, 15:30 to 17:30

Tue 12th Nov, 15:30 to 17:30

Tue 19th Nov, 15:30 to 17:30

Tue 26th Nov, 15:30 to 17:30

Tue 3rd Dec, 15:30 to 17:30

Branch

Ilford and Gants Hill Branch

Tutor

Brandon Robshaw

Fee range

Free to £100.00

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

Each week we focus on a classic work of fiction, reading and discussing key passages. The texts include short novels which can be read in one week, and longer novels which we'll study over two weeks. The course is organised chronologically and spans over 130 years, from the late 19th century to modern times. We begin with Oscar Wilde's *The Picture of Dorian Grey* and end with Claire Keegan's *Small Things Like These*. We'll share and debate interpretations, sharpen our critical and appreciative faculties, understand what fiction can tell us about the society and culture that produced it, and, hopefully, be inspired to read other works by the writers featured on the course.

Course description

Over the ten weeks of the course, you'll take part in lively discussions, analysing and interpreting great works of fiction. To understand literature, we need to engage with it on three levels: our own personal response to it as a work of art; an attempt to understand the preoccupations, aims and agenda of the writer, as illuminated by their biography; and an enquiry into what it can tell us the wider culture and society that produced it. Each class starts with a short lecture from the tutor, putting the work in its historical and cultural context; we then read selected passages and explore all three levels. Be prepared for plenty of (good-natured) disagreement. The texts under discussion are: *The Picture of Dorian Grey* by Oscar Wilde; *Strong Poison* by Dorothy Sayers; *Down and Out in Paris and London* by George Orwell; *Hangover Square* by Patrick Hamilton; *Right-Ho Jeeves* by PG Wodehouse; *A Waiter in Paris* by Edward Chisholm; and *Small Things Like These* by Claire Keegan. Some of these texts are available free online, and selected passages will be posted on Canvas before each session. A course for everyone who loves literature

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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