



Course details

Course title

Art and About: Sketching on the Southbank, Thames River & Bridges (July)

Course code

Q00019147

Course date

Start: 09/07/25

End: 23/07/25

Number of classes

3 sessions

Timetable

Wed 9th Jul, 10:30 to 13:30

Wed 16th Jul, 10:30 to 13:30

Wed 23rd Jul, 10:30 to 13:30

Tutor

Debra Collis

Fee range

Free to £29.40

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

Meeting Point: Topolski Studio

Topolski Studios SBC
Access Road
Arch 158
Hungerford Arches, Belvedere Rd,
London
SE1 8XU

Level of study

Beginners

Course overview

If you fancied yourself as an urban sketcher but never had the confidence to work outside alone, join one of these sociable morning or afternoon sessions to capture an aspect or view of London's River Thames and Bridges by the vibrant Southbank. Whilst drawing on location, we will be using dry materials, pen/ink alongside watercolour for line and wash sketches and work with two sizes of sketchbook (A5 and A4/3). Toilets and Meeting Point will be at Topolski Studios by the side of the Southbank main riverpath.

Course description

In each of these sessions, you will have the opportunity to capture vibrant scenes and bridges across London's River Thames with the iconic city skyline in the distance. We will draw inspiration from artists such as Derain, Monet, Van Gogh, and Turner who have depicted these scenes over the centuries, as well as look at contemporary artists who depict the London skyline or city life. Within different sessions, participants can focus on the bustling atmosphere of the Southbank, dynamic cityscapes from popular viewing points or the bold shapes of Thame's bridges and river boats. Materials you will need include graphite pencils in various strengths for tonal work, pen or ink pens and small watercolour set for line and wash. Water or brushes with water reservoirs also useful. First session we will concentrate on drawing, and the second, in adding colour. Quick drawings will be encouraged in A5 sketchbooks and longer studies in larger sketchbooks that you can carry with you – a folding stool will also be useful although there are lots of benches to sit on! The experienced tutor will guide you on specific techniques that will help you with composition, mastering line and wash with colour, and capturing the specific details using varied mark-making. Suggestions on how to develop them into paintings will also be covered.

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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