



## **Summer School 1: 16th - 19th July - Harper Adams University**

## **Summer School 2: 20th - 23rd August - Royal Agricultural College**

### **COSTS FOR COMPLETE SUMMER SCHOOL**

**INCLUDING A WELCOME RECEPTION ON THE FIRST DAY FOR ALL DELEGATES**

Full board residential delegate in en-suite accommodation	£315.00 per person
Non-residential day delegate including lunches	£118.00 per person
DEPOSIT	£70.00 per person

For downloadable details, costs and application forms for the 2012 Summer Schools visit the U3A website at [www.U3A.org.uk](http://www.U3A.org.uk)

### **CINEMA HISTORY – ‘Typically British’: aspects of UK film during & after the Second World War Tutor: Alan Coulson**

The globalization of cinema has resulted in many ‘British’ films being large scale ‘internationalised’ entertainments, mostly targeted at young audiences. Using film extracts and interviews with film makers and commentators, this course focuses mainly upon films produced in the latter half of the 20th century which are rooted in aspects of identifiably British character and culture. We shall look at characteristically British genres and consider how films reflect the changing social and economic conditions of the times in which they were made.

Level of ability: Suitable for all. A love of films is the only pre-requisite.

Teaching style: Presentation of film extracts and interviews with questions and discussion.

### **DESIGN PRINCIPLES IN ART – Exploring the element of LINE Tutor: Jacqueline Cartwright**

Design Principles in Art is a serious subject, studied over centuries by Apprentices in Florence in the 1400's, to Bauhaus in the 1900's, and by our current day students studying Foundation Level of Art Degrees and the Design Element (50%) of City & Guilds Certificates and Diplomas.

We are going to explore the first of the great design principles - LINE - in a fun filled, non-stressed, experimental learning environment. We will develop "good looking" drawing skills, using a variety of media tools and applicators along with lots of tips and techniques. We will consider Line in the natural and man-made environments as well as evaluating how other artists have used Linear Quality in their work

Level of ability: This course is suitable for all those wishing to broaden their understanding of art

and improve their drawing, painting, compositional and visual communication skills ---from complete beginners (I promise you success) to competent amateur artists (I promise you won't be bored).

Teaching style: This is a hands-on, practical course, supported by illustrations from other artists as well as samples from my own work. The course will include much discussion and both group and supported self-evaluation.

### **FRANCE – la France et les Français d’aujourd’hui Tutor: Louise Johnson**

I am a French native and I would like to share the love and knowledge of my country with you. I will guide you through different aspects of contemporary France, its inhabitants, their culture and their environment using a range of media including a film, slides, newspaper articles, French magazines, poetry, tapes of conversations and songs, quizzes, etc. Are you a member of a U3A French group? This course will enable you to improve your spoken French and your understanding of the language while gaining confidence.

Level of ability: Participants should have done some French beforehand, ideally at ‘0’ level standard or above in order to benefit fully from this course. You should bring a bilingual dictionary and a short exposé (preferably in French, but not necessarily) on a French town or area of your choice and any French magazine, or short texts in French or about France you may wish to share with the group. (See Additional Notes page 4).

Teaching style: My aim is to provide a relaxed learning atmosphere while offering an interesting and worthwhile content. I like to promote understanding and communication in French in an active, varied and fun way.

### **HISTORY – England in the 19th century Tutor: Peter Gamby**

This new course will explore some of the dramatic social changes of the 19th century including: Crime and Punishment – we will look at changes over the period:- what was regarded as a crime; the judicial system; the types of punishment; rehabilitation.

The Middle Classes - when and how the middle classes arose; what were their characteristics:- employment; speech; salary; family; social mobility. We will discuss Domestic Service (roles, responsibilities, opportunities, conditions). We shall also look at a few unusual 19th century inventions.

Despite all the changes since, there are many echoes of the period in our own time on which we may reflect.

Level of ability: This is an introductory course welcoming both beginners and those who have attended the tutor’s earlier history courses.

Teaching style: There will be PowerPoint presentations, discussions and copies of contemporaneous documents to consider.

### **MUSIC APPRECIATION: Making friends with music around the world Tutor: Jack Wood**

This course is intended for those who enjoy classical music and would like to know more about it. While in 2011 we covered the development of Western music in a chronological way, this year’s course adopts a geographical approach. The music – and the way it developed – of individual European countries is featured, sometimes spiced with a little folk music on the way and the prominent composers of each country focused upon. To make it truly ‘around the world’, the journey also includes brief moments in India, the Far East and a couple of sessions on the Americas. Musical forms will be explained, and instruments identified. Musical excerpts will be plentiful. This course is not academic or technical: it is intended to inform and entertain music lovers, while extending their listening experience.

Level of ability: Beginners are very welcome.

Teaching style: Lectures/questions/discussion approx 40%. Musical extracts & examples approx 60%.

**PHILOSOPHY/FICTION: The times, they were a-changing Tutor: Meg Shaw**

An exploration of the disparate ideas of 50 years ago through the fiction published in 1961. It was a year of contrast – a man in space and the construction of the Berlin Wall; a banned book released and a book imprisoned; Jean-Paul Sartre, R D Laing and Michel Foucault explored what it means to be human; Evelyn Waugh, Angus Wilson, Graham Greene published fiction but also David Storey and Alan Sillitoe, Ivy Compton-Burnet, Iris Murdoch and Muriel Spark; Joseph Heller's 'Catch 22' shared best-selling status with Ian Fleming's James Bond and Le Carre's first George Smiley.

Level of ability: The study will appeal to those who like to read novels but are also interested in the history of ideas. A book list will be available on registration.

Teaching style: The course will be a mixture of presentation and discussion.

**POETRY: Three Priest-Poets Tutor: Beth Butler**

We shall explore poems and some prose by each of three poets who are also priests. The poetry tells us about the poets, their faith, their parishioners and their relationship to their own times.

George Herbert: after the Elizabethan Settlement and just before the Puritan revolution he became an Anglican parish priest.

Gerard Manley Hopkins: after the laissez-faire and increasing secularization of the 18th century, the Tractarian movement rediscovered the Catholic element in Anglicanism. Hopkins was born a high Anglican, joined the Roman Catholic church and became a Jesuit priest.

R. S. Thomas: in the 20th century faith was no longer easy or absolute, as secularism became rampant. Thomas, an Anglican priest who resented not being a Welsh speaker, is a puzzling figure.

Level of ability: Suitable for anyone who enjoys poetry and has a basic knowledge of the Anglican church's history. This course is a sequel to the 2010 Cirencester course with some new material.

Teaching style: Lectures with reading and discussion. The tutor will provide a reading guide.

**RECORDER ENSEMBLE PLAYING Tutor: Ursula Steiger**

Making music with others can be extremely satisfying and a great deal of fun. The intention is to play together in four parts and it is hoped that this course will attract players of descant, treble, tenor and bass recorders. The music will range from the traditional recorder repertoire to more modern pieces, including some jazz, show tunes and light classical music. There will also be an opportunity for small groups playing together and for each section to rehearse their part. Time for individual practice will also be built in. The tutor leads an award winning U3A recorder ensemble in Kent.

Level of Ability: Suitable for recorder players who are able to play a simple tune but who wish to make progress. More experienced players should ring the tutor (see Additional Notes on page 4) before signing up for this course. Equipment needed (see Additional Notes on page 4).

Some music can be made available to participants before the course.

Teaching Style: The tutor will lead the ensemble; small groups will work by themselves whilst the tutor circulates among them. There will also be opportunity to practice sight-reading and improve playing technique.

**WRITING FICTION Tutor: Jill Heller**

Get it down, then get it better. We will look at ways of improving our writing. Is there too much detail or not enough? Is the character firmly fixed in the setting? If he/she is not comfortable, is that the story? We will start by improving and finishing a short story. I hope we will all come away with enough ideas to keep us writing for years.

Level of Ability: All levels welcome.

Teaching Style: We will be a 'Writers' Circle', mainly involving the whole group and sometimes

working in pairs. There might be some group work. There will be time to write, read your work and gain feedback.

We will not be using laptops.

**DRAMA: Let's try comedy      Tutor: Rosamund Hall**

We shall explore the changing nature of comic drama. There are many ways of making people laugh: the Greeks might not have amused eighteenth century England. Twentieth century Europe tried several different ways - from the stylish words of Noel Coward to Theatre of the Absurd. I will look at a short excerpt from a Greek comedy, study scenes from eighteenth century English theatre and look at plays by Ionesco and N F Simpson. If there is time we could add a little Broadway humour.

Early reading should include Congreve (*The Way of the World*) and Goldsmith (*She Stoops to Conquer*). Also any Noel Coward – please see a production or read a script.

Level of ability: A high level of enthusiasm is essential. Be prepared for acting, vigorous discussion and listening to others in the group.

Teaching style: Short lectures to start each session, followed by workshop style acting.

**HISTORY: An enduring affair: the Orient and the Occident      Tutor: Krishna Dutta**

Britain – a small English-speaking Christian island in the North Atlantic Ocean conducted an extraordinary relationship for over 250 years with India, a country of over a billion people of myriad faith and language.

The course will look at this astonishing encounter between the east and west with its gamut of glory and shame. It will explore the enduring legacy of cross-cultural stimulation from the time of the East India Company through the Raj-era to India's independence and beyond.

Level of ability : Suitable for all but an interest in cross-cultural issues would be useful.

Teaching style : Tutor led with stimulating discussion and question and answer sessions.

**LITERATURE: Late!      Tutors: Mary MacGregor and Keith Richards**

This course will explore works which, in the event, are acknowledged to be the 'last' which the writers produced. We shall look specifically at Shakespeare's *The Tempest*, Jane Austen's *Persuasion*, *Last Poems* by W. B. Yeats and *Last Poems* by Edward Thomas. In the case of Yeats and Thomas a small number of poems will be selected for close study at the school although it is hoped that participants will have read more widely in the collections beforehand. As the group is forming there will be contact with the tutors and the proposed structure of the course will be sent shortly before commencement.

Level of ability: Open to all who are prepared to read the texts before coming to the school and are willing to contribute to the discussions.

Teaching style: Seminars with discussion. It would be helpful if some members of the group are prepared to undertake readings and/or short presentations.

**NEEDLEPOINT LACEMAKING: A centuries old craft      Tutor: Mary Tunnell**

Handmade lace with a needle has foundations in embroidery and is not a difficult or expensive craft to learn. Students should be able to complete a small motif and gain a good working understanding of the techniques and method of construction for this lace. This course is also an 'essential' for any City & Guilds Embroidery students who need to gain experience in 'stump work' (17th century raised embroidery) as needle lace forms an important part of this work.

Level of ability: This course is suitable for all, no previous experience in lacemaking is needed –

only some skill and dexterity with a sewing needle. No expensive tools or equipment are required and anyone who sews will have to hand all that they need to get started (see Additional Notes on page 3 for equipment to bring and the tutor's contact details if you have any queries about the course).

Teaching style: Mainly individual tutoring. There will be some lectures and discussion of historical context.

**PHILOSOPHY: What has Greek philosophy done for us? Tutor: Vernon Ward**

The course will give an outline of Greek philosophy with special emphasis on Plato and Aristotle and will focus on those elements that we still debate today. These include problems of truth and knowledge; questions of science and mathematics and what counts as 'reality'; the return to Greek (Aristotle) ethics in the modern theory of virtue ethics; and the continuing debates between nominalists and modern Platonists.

Level of ability: The course is suitable for anyone who has an interest in the sort of problems that have engaged philosophers throughout the ages. Some pre-course reading will be required based on the tutor's notes.

Teaching style: Explanations will be given where necessary and appropriate but It is expected that participants will contribute to the discussion of the issues at some length.

**PSYCHOLOGY: Reality and imagination Tutor: Anne Dale**

An exploration of the human capacity for playing with reality - imagining things which don't exist, developing tools, translating experience into symbolic form through images and stories. Paintings, carvings, music, myth and folk tales are found in all societies. The development of language and the ability to imagine alternative possibilities have enabled us to transcend present limitations. We will look at what psychology can tell us about the nature and functions of creativity and the processes involved. We will consider what characterises exceptionally creative individuals as well as the extent of the taken-for-granted creativity of everyday life.

Level of ability: Suitable for all.

Teaching style: A variety of methods including short lectures, discussion, and group activities.

**SINGING FOR PLEASURE: Tutor: Ursula Steiger**

This course is intended for members who love music and enjoy singing. The aim is to sing many different genres of music and to learn how to make the best of our voices. It is hoped that we will be able to sing in four-part harmony, but this will depend on the make-up of the group. Members need to be prepared to be flexible and will be encouraged to try new experiences. We shall sing folk songs, spirituals, classical pieces, songs from shows and from the past. We may provide after-dinner entertainment to other group members which will provide experience of performing, but will not be a compulsory part of the course.

Level of ability: Ability to read music would be an advantage but is not a requirement nor is having experience of choral singing. A willingness to try new things and have fun with music is important. (See Additional notes page 3).

Teaching style: We shall have a pianist to accompany us, but we will also use percussion instruments and any other instruments members might want to bring. We use a rehearsal room and the chapel to sing and may also spend some time out of doors. The tutor will do most of the teaching and is happy for participants to bring suitable songs for the group to learn. A little relevant theory will be added to sessions.

**WEBSITE DESIGN: Build your own website Tutor: Chris Powell**

This course will cover the concepts, tools and techniques to build your own website. During the course each student will build a functional web site that could be used by any U3A using freely

available tools. We will NOT be relying on free template software that is available from many website providers – rather we will build web pages from scratch so that an understanding of how ‘things hang together’ is obtained. We will also discuss how websites work and how to go about obtaining your own website. At the end of the class attendees will leave with a working website and the skills to maintain and enhance that site going forward together with suggestions for additional study if they wish to enhance their skills (and their website).

Level of ability: This class is aimed at people who are reasonably competent using a Windows based computer. No previous knowledge of building websites is required, nor is there a need for programming skills. A knowledge of the Windows file system and how to use a web browser is assumed.

Teaching style: Presentations and demonstrations. Very interactive - the course is almost completely based on practical computer and web-based exercises. Notes (in PowerPoint format) will be circulated prior to class. It is recommended students print and bring these with them.