

U3A Summer Learning Break
Monday 7th - Thursday 10th August 2017

Course Subject Offer



This year, we have a wide range of topics to be led by a wealth of enthusiastic U3A member-tutors who offer their experience and expertise to guide our learning.

Please indicate on your Application Form which course you would like to join.

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| 1. Jane Austen: Her World and Her Books | Denise West |
| 2. Philosophy | Dave Alton |
| 3. Post War History of Britain | David Davies |
| 4. Cosmology | Frank Lukey |
| 5. Botanical Art Drawing | Sue Warren |
| 6. Archaeology | Derek Barker |
| 7. The Plantagenet Dynasty | Beth Rudkin |
| 8. Influential Thinkers In Psychology | Barbara Dransfield |

Jane Austen: Her World and Her Books

Tutor Denise West

Jane Austen's works of romantic fiction set amongst the landed gentry earned her a place as one of the most widely read writers of our time. We will take three of Austen's novels Sense and Sensibility, Emma and Pride and Prejudice to explore her a vivid portrayal of everyday life in Georgian society. Austen is renowned for her realism and biting social commentary that give us an irreplaceable insight into the period, gaining her historical importance amongst scholars and critics alike.

Philosophy

Tutor Dave Alton

Historically, as science and natural philosophy began to challenge the religious view of the cosmos, particular ways of thinking began to form the foundations of our present society. There is a resurgence of interest in this 'classical philosophy' and its application to our radically changing world that is attributed to the emergence of secularism within our society. This workshop will explore classical philosophy and how it influenced the Renaissance, before moving on to examine its relevance today

History of Britain 1945 – 1997

Tutor David Davies

Our journey - our memories - our island's continuing story. This workshop will survey post-war United Kingdom, touching on the Political, Economic, Social and Technological changes we have lived through, and the BIG ISSUES of the day. Encouraging discussion and debate of the issues raised, the memories of the people and events, the comedy and the drama of those times will be enlivened by digital power-point projection and substantial illustration. Do come along - these are our times and we are part of it!

Cosmology

Tutor Frank Lukey

Have you ever pondered some of the Big Questions that have kept cosmologist busy for ever? Join this course to find out how a few BQ's are approached! For example how did everything including ourselves get here? How are measurements and observations made to construct an understanding of how the universe was created? How do we reach conclusions as to how big the Universe is? And finally, what might the future hold now that everything in the cosmos is being shown to be moving & developing in some way?

Botanical Drawing

Tutor Sue Warren

Botanical drawing doesn't necessarily mean just flowers and leaves, but natural objects as fungus, bark and twigs, shells and pebbles. We will begin by mastering drawing techniques using different grades of graphite pencils (hard to soft leads), learning how to lay pencil strokes onto paper to achieve a detailed shaded drawing. We will then progress to pen and ink using both black and sepia inks and very fine-tipped pens in order to obtain a finely detailed drawing.

No previous drawing experience is necessary, but if you'd like to join this workshop, **you will be invited to contact the tutor** when you receive your event programme in June to discuss the equipment you'll need to ensure you get the best from your summer learning experience.

Archaeology

Tutor Derek Barker

Are you a Time Team fan or just interested in how we used to live? This is a great opportunity to learn how powerful new scientific tools and techniques can reveal an unexpectedly complex picture of earlier societies. Such discoveries will guide our exploration of Iron Age, Roman & post-Roman Britain, and consider post-medieval Industrial Archaeology with its relation to geology. Importantly, we'll discuss how knowledge in the present brings new responsibilities in preserving the past for the future.

The Plantagenets

Tutor Beth Rudkin

They have been called Britain's bloodiest dynasty.....full of betrayal, love, murder, as well as peasants revolting. We will cover all of these. You will never feel the same about the Plantagenets again!

Influential Thinkers in Psychology

Tutor Barbara Dransfield

Ever wondered how we came to know so much about the human mind and behaviour? Join this workshop and find a few answers! We will delve the life and work of 4 prominent theorists who have significantly influenced the development of psychology to find a few answers and explore how such learning influences the society in which we live.

Wake Up With Tai Chi.

Led by Christine Roberts-Holland

No need to book !!

An open invitation is offered to all delegates to join a half hour session of Tai Chi every morning before breakfast. Information about times and venue will be available at registration on Monday 7th August

The ancient art of Tai chi is practised around the world by all ages. Studies have shown that this gentle form of exercise holds significant benefits for the over 65's by helping reduce stress, improve balance and general mobility, and increase muscle strength in the legs.

If you've never done it before, or are an old hand, come along to these daily Wake Up sessions.