

Welcome to Lifelong Learning



What do we offer?

Learning new things is a beautiful part of the human experience. At Lifelong Learning we believe this can and should continue beyond schooling. Across our evening and weekend courses we aim to offer a learning experience that is sociable and pleasurable, so that you can engage with new ideas, skills and viewpoints, drawing on our latest research and teaching expertise, in topics you are interested in pursuing.

Throughout the academic year we offer a range of evening Language courses at different levels and plan to offer our Easter and Summer Intensive Language courses again this year. These courses are a great way to develop some basic and practical skills in a new language or refresh yourself on a language you have not used in some time. If you are a current student at the University, make sure to check our Southampton Language Opportunity details for the free courses you may wish to join in addition to your degree studies!

Alongside our language courses we are very excited to be offering a new suite of Humanities themed courses from local

history, cinematography, practical fine art skills, philosophical courses, and many more. Whichever course you choose will offer a rewarding and challenging experience through a range of learning styles and techniques.

The majority of our Humanities courses take place once a week over a period of six weeks, from 7-9pm. Some may run over a full weekend so please make sure to check the dates and times before you book! Most courses will be in-person with teaching located at our Avenue Campus which offers easy access on public transport (buses to and from Southampton and Winchester stop near the campus) as well as free parking for students who need to travel by car. Some of our courses will be offered either as fully online or as a hybrid option which means students will study together both in the classroom and online, again the course details will specify when you book.

This short booklet provides information on the courses due to run over the academic year 2024/25. We hope you find something to your interest!

Arts and Humanities Evening Courses

Running over 2024/25

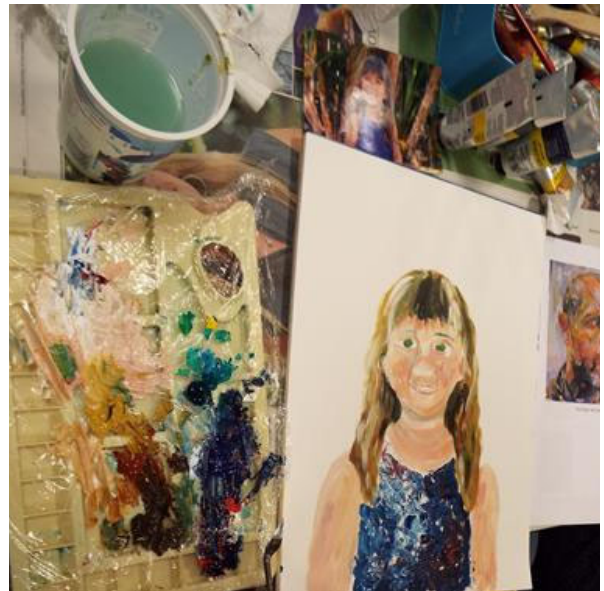
Explore the exciting world of human existence at the University of Southampton through our Lifelong Learning Courses and Study Days. The date ranges for when these courses are scheduled to run are included below. Please check our online booking website for specifics on days and times using the QR code provided!



Ethics in the World: Is the weight of being bearable? Existentialism through the lens of Heidegger, Sartre and Camus

Does existence precede essence? Is there such a thing as human nature? Are we condemned to freedom? This course offers an overview of three 20th century philosophers in the European existentialist tradition. We will begin by exploring the cultural background through philosophers and writers including Turgenev, Dostoevsky, Kierkegaard, Nietzsche and Husserl. We will then explore the philosophy of Heidegger in his work 'Being and Time'. Next we will explore Sartre's existentialism including the ideas of 'bad faith', 'anguish' and 'freedom. Finally we will explore Albert Camus' absurdism through the novella 'The Stranger' and the philosophical work 'The myth of Sisyphus'.

13th January - 17th February 2025



Exploring Portraiture

In this course we will examine attitudes to the portrait, which change to reflect society and art historical developments. Practical exercises will be undertaken in class using drawing materials, paint and collage with personal references as a starting point.

This module combines lectures, a seminar component (discussions and analysis of artworks) and a workshop element. The latter (one and a half hour per two hour session) will explore various artistic styles and practical techniques in drawing, painting and mixed media.

14th January - 4th March 2025



Exploring Histories of Conflict: 'Sung up and down by minstrels': The Soundscape of Discord in Seventeenth Century England.

Perhaps you enjoy the chamber music of Henry Purcell, the intimate lute settings of John Dowland, or the grand masses of William Byrd – but have you ever heard the performance of a libellous ballad, the ear-splitting clamour of rough music, or considered the meaning of a Black Sanctus? Welcome to the bizarre, noisy, and thought-provoking sound-world of seventeenth century English discord, in which music could be harnessed as a powerful weapon in the destruction of individual or collective authority.

Discover how new technologies facilitated the spread of libel and misinformation in musical form; how composers of libellous song earned grizzly punishments, and how, unlike other tools of combat, music provided a potent means of perpetuating slander, calling on ridicule, gossip and rumour to publicly disgrace its victims.

Throughout this course, we bring the murky underbelly of seventeenth-century musical discord into the twenty-first, as we consider what the clamour of the past can reveal about how we regulate social behaviour, express dissent and engage in political debate today.

14th January - 18th February 2025



Histories and Contexts of Cinema: Introduction to Global Queer Cinema

Over this six-week course, you will gain a general understanding of global queer cinema and its impact on culture and society. It will take you on a journey through the contexts, representations, and progressions of global queer cinema. Along this journey, you will explore age, race, class, love and loss in queer cinema through a globalised perspective. The course will conclude with an examination of the current and future development of this exciting and varied film genre.

14th January - 18th February 2025



Exploring Histories of Conflict: Capturing Conflict: Exploring the history of war photography

From Roger Fenton's use of a horse-drawn 'photography van' to capture the Crimean War (1853-1856) through grainy black and white images to the moment-to-moment documentation afforded by smartphones today, photographs have fundamentally shaped our understanding of modern war. In this course, students will learn how photography and the role of photographers has evolved in the context of conflicts. This will include consideration of what has made certain photographs iconic and the impact of censorship, innovation, and changing norms on what captures the public's imagination. War photography is part of the broader story about how visual documentation informs and influences perceptions about political events, and this course will encourage you to think critically about what role the increasing democratisation of information and technology plays in this story.

16th January - 20th February 2025

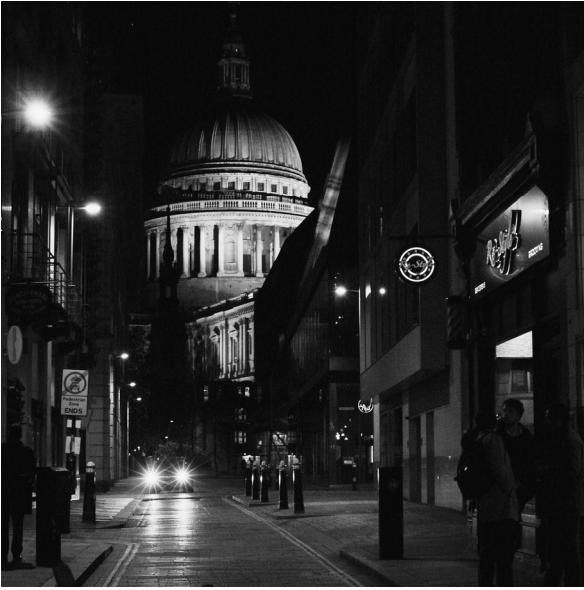


Exploring Regional Histories: Historical Narratives of Winchester

This course will explore eight centuries of Winchester's history, from the unique perspective of local legends and writings about the region. From the life and legend of Alfred the Great, through Arthurian folklore, Winchester's round table and on to the battle of Guy of Warwick and the giant Colbrand, the course will immerse you in the tales that have been told about this ancient city.

Each week, you will explore a different historical narrative, or legend, to uncover the common themes, and ask key questions about why these accounts were written, and how they influenced the city. We will look at the development of these stories over time and the reasons behind their growing prominence in creating a rich cultural sense of place and history in the ancestral capital of Wessex. Drawing on archaeology, historical sources, and folklore this wide ranging and exciting course offers you the chance to view Winchester in a whole new light.

21st January - 25th February 2025



Fiction Essentials: Writing the City

This creative writing course invites you to engage with urban space in your writing: to register its rhythms, map its corners, and think deeply about how the landscape of the city shapes your feelings and experiences.

Each week, we'll explore a set of texts that give voice to the city in different ways, from the flâneurs who strolled the streets of Paris to the Windrush-generation novelists documenting their experiences of London. These texts will act as prompts for your own writing, with exercises to help you experiment with form, voice, and subject.

Throughout the course you will be encouraged to draw on your own real or virtual experiences of straying through the city's parks and streets, and recording the changing moods, atmospheres, sounds and scenery.

28th January - 4th March 2025



Histories and Contexts of Cinema - Titanic and other ships on Film

“I am tormented with an everlasting itch for things remote, I love to sail forbidden seas...”

Are you a ship lover? Starting with the RMS Titanic which departed from the port of Southampton in her maiden voyage, this course takes you on a journey into films that feature a variety of ships in different historical periods across cultures. From Polynesian canoes, Greek triremes and Chinese treasure ships to the 19th century iron steamers and battleship Yamato, from Noah's Ark to the Flying Dutchman in *Pirates of the Caribbean*. We will also investigate the behind-the-scenes stories of how they are presented for the screen.

29th January - 5th March 2025



The Art of Philosophical Thinking: Mind, Consciousness and Personal Identity

Who am I? What is my purpose in life?

Join us in search of answers to this and many other questions about what it is that make you, you. This thematic course offers an exploration of the mind, what it is, and how it is structured. We will introduce you to key ideas on consciousness, subjective experience, and 'the mind-body problem'. You will engage with the work of philosophers such as Wittgenstein, to help you wrestle with some of the most critical questions in the philosophy of mind and key concepts that inform this field.

30th January - 6th March 2025



The Art of Film: Learn how to make a film in six steps, from script to editing

This intensive course takes place over a weekend, during which you will learn how to create a short film or a short audio-visual project, from theory to practice.

The sessions will focus on different aspects of cinematography, namely six fundamentals of filmmaking: from step one, which is the script, to the last step, which is the editing and post-production.

The course begins with an introduction to the basics of scriptwriting. Then we focus on film direction and outstanding filmmakers, before moving on to learn about camera and photography operations and terminology.

Next, we examine artistic surroundings and aesthetics of cinema illustrated by examples from Art films and directors.

Finally, we cover the meticulous process of editing and post-production. This includes an opportunity for hands-on practise. By the end of the course you should be able to create your own project, using the very basic of tools, either in class or at home

11th April-13th April 2025



The Serious Pleasures of Literary Reading: Women's Writing Through Time

Time travel with us on a journey to discover how women's writing has developed over the centuries. What were the social conditions in which women wrote? How did changes in laws and different movements lead to a rise in women's writings?

29th April - 3rd June 2025



A Study of Women Artists: 16th to 21st Century

This practical art course will help develop analytical and creative skills by reflecting on major art movements.

The Art world has seen a remarkable range of successful female visual artists over the centuries. Their journey, so often a poignant tale of struggle, is inspiring. This 8-week course will examine the achievement of women painters in a diverse range of styles, tracking the story of art from 16th to 21st Century. It will enable students to make practical experiments in a range of genres, including Portraiture, Still Life, Landscape and Abstraction with a series of practical exercises involving drawing materials, paint and collage, using own references.

Aims and learning outcomes

On successful completion of the module you will be able to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of Female Art as illustrated by various artists including Evelyn de Morgan and Bridget Riley and will gain mastery of drawing, painting and mixed media techniques in order to develop personal art projects in a range of genres, building on artists' examples.

29th April-17th June 2025



The Spaghetti Western: The good, the bad and the beautiful

This course is perfect for both the devoted fans of the genre and complete newcomers.

Initially criticized for being a cheap imitation of the American western, the 1960s Italian western subverted and revolutionized the genre. Introducing irony, cynicism, black humour, sadistic violence, cartoonish action, and leftist overtones, it became a world phenomenon. It kept on surprising the public with its gradually increasing eccentricity, while also mirroring its troubled historical times, defined by growing crime and unemployment rates, riots, police brutality and corruption scandals.

This course evaluates the spaghetti western in all its glory. It focuses on its unusual evolution and historical context, but also enormous flexibility which resulted in the production of truly peculiar hybrids, combining the western with the elements of gothic horror or the kung-fu film. We will discuss the most famous and the most obscure spaghetti westerns in equal matters, using numerous film extracts to illustrate the analysed content.

30th April 2025-4th June 2025



Ethics in the World - What's the point in it all? Schopenhauer and Nietzsche on the meaning of life

What gives value to our lives? Should we be grateful for having been born or not? An exploration of questions of the meaning and value of life will focus on the issues, concerns and solutions of two prominent 19th century philosophers – Arthur Schopenhauer and Friedrich Nietzsche. The course will introduce you to some of the key early existentialist questions which have contributed significantly to modern thought.

During the course we will consider questions such as – Is life worth the effort invested in it? Can art redeem life? Is God dead? Can a life of suffering be affirmed?

2025 - dates TBC

Lifelong Learning

Learn a Language or Improve your Skills



Within Lifelong Learning we offer a range of Evening Language courses for new starters wanting to pick up a new language to experienced speakers wanting to develop their skills!

These courses run weekly after office hours to empower your learning around your employment, or you may want to learn for enjoyment or travel.

If you are a University of Southampton student, check our Southampton Language Opportunity courses before booking here as you might be able to take a beginner level course for free!

The 30 week Stage 1 beginner courses aim to get you to a standard approximately equivalent to GCSE. The 10 week 1a courses are a great introduction to learning a new language and there is the opportunity to progress to stage 1b and 1c if you should wish to.

We offer some languages at higher levels and

these include Stage 2 (Pre-Intermediate) where you will need to have a good GCSE standard to start this course. By the end of the 30 weeks, you should have achieved AS level/lower 'A' level standard.

Our Stage 3 (Intermediate) courses aim to reach a standard equivalent to a good 'A' Level standard including an in-depth knowledge of some aspects of the culture(s) of countries where the language is spoken.

Stage 4 (Advanced) is for students with a good grade at 'A' level or equivalent standard. As you progress at this stage, you will be able to understand most spoken language and participate in discussions on familiar and complex topics.

https://www.southampton.ac.uk/lifelonglearning/modern_languages/language_stages.page

Lifelong Learning

Learn a Language or Improve your Skills

This year we expect to offer courses in:

- Arabic
- French
- German
- Greek
- Italian
- Japanese
- Mandarin Chinese
- Portuguese
- Russian
- Spanish

For more information and to book please visit:

https://www.southampton.ac.uk/lifelonglearning/modern_languages/intensive.page

Contact Email: lifelonglearning@soton.ac.uk

Visit our website to find out more and we look forward to welcoming you to the University to begin your language learning journey.



Contact Information and Useful Links

Lifelong Learning - Non-Language (Humanities) Courses

Website: <https://www.southampton.ac.uk/lifelonglearning/courses/index-page.page>

Online Store: <https://go.soton.ac.uk/gbp>

Contact Email: lifelonglearning@soton.ac.uk



You can also access the online store using this QR code!

Lifelong Learning - Language Courses

Website: https://www.southampton.ac.uk/lifelonglearning/modern_languages/index.page

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