

Lifelong Learning Newsletter

May 2023



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Welcome to the May edition of our Newsletter.

At Lifelong Learning our motto is *Meet, Learn, Enjoy*. 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.

Many of you will already have been students with us or be aware of our long-running and extensive language learning programme. There is still time to join us this year by taking one of our **Summer Intensive Language Courses**. These courses are a great way to develop some basic and practical skills in a new language before the holiday season. For those wanting to progress your language skills our new programme of courses will be opening for booking in early July. Look out for some new options for online language learning which might suit you if you are not able to join us in person.

Alongside our language courses we are very excited to be offering a new suite of Humanities themed courses which cover topics as diverse as

the **History of Ukraine**, the **Philosophy of the Mind** and the **Archaeology of Shipwrecks**. We also have some more practical courses which will introduce to the **Art of Film-making** and **Poetry Writing**. Whichever one you choose our courses offer a rewarding and challenging experience in which you will learn through a varied combination of classroom activities such as listening, discussing, debating, critiquing and in some cases hands-on practice.

Our Humanities courses take place once a week over a period of six weeks, from 7-9pm. 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 (Poetry and the Body) or as a hybrid option (Jewish History) which means students will study together both in the classroom and online.

Quench your thirst for knowledge, with our new courses

Explore the exciting world of human existence at the University of Southampton, through our Lifelong Learning Courses and Study Days.



Jewish History and Culture through the Ages (online and in person)

This course offers an overview of Jewish/non-Jewish relations across time – from Antiquity to the late-20th Century – by drawing upon art, literature, and film. Sessions include insights into religious and cultural history in the Ancient and Medieval world, as well as modern examples of Jewish/non-Jewish relations across the last century. Attendees will be able to discuss and analyse both textual and visual examples in a seminar-style setting. No prior knowledge is expected.

To book on this course, [click here](#)



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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.

To book on this course, [click here](#)



Exploring Regional Histories: Historical Narratives of Winchester

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.

To book on this course, [click here](#)



Exploring Regional Histories : Ukraine at a Crossroads

Putin's 2022 invasion of Ukraine has catapulted the region back into the international press. In order to fully understand modern Ukraine, its politics, and the war in Ukraine today, it is essential to first make sense of its complex history. Ukraine and Russia's shared national origin story in the medieval state of Kievan Rus is slowly beginning to feature within attempts to understand the war in Ukraine. The full picture, however, is far more extensive.

This course will explore the history of Ukraine from the medieval period through to independence in 1991. It will cover the Ukrainian experience of imperial rule under the Habsburg Monarchy and the Russian Empire, as well as failed attempts to secure an independent Ukrainian state from the Allied Powers following WWI. It will then examine how the Soviet period shaped Ukrainian national identity, socio-economic development, language and culture, asking how the region's history impacts its future.

To book on this course, [click here](#)



Introduction to Poetry Writing: Poetry and the Body (online)

This six-week creative writing course will introduce you to the body in contemporary poetry, inviting you to experiment and engage in how to discuss the body in your own writing. You will develop a foundation of skills for free-verse poetry, such as creating impact through line breaks, optimizing the aural qualities of word choices, and titling your poems.

This no-pressure course focuses on getting words down on the page. The emphasis will therefore be on writing exercises rather than critique, although the group may request time to workshop their poems if they wish.

The course includes the close study of sample poetry from a range of underrepresented poets. We will conclude by examining possible next steps suitable for your individual practice, such as network building, setting up workshop groups, or publishing your poems.

Prior creative writing experience is not required—the course is open to fledgling and seasoned writers, alike.

To book on this course, [click here](#)



Shipwreck and Maritime Archaeology: Shipwrecks and Stories

How do you investigate a shipwreck? What can it tell us? When should you, or shouldn't you, start your archaeological investigation? This course encourages you to explore key questions about the value of shipwrecks as sources, and the challenges and dilemmas involved in investigating them. You will be encouraged to use these skills to carry out your research into a shipwreck, and what it can tell us about the history of ship building.

Using objects, documents and artwork, you will examine how we can unlock the mysteries of shipwrecks, drawing on the examples set by previous investigations. We will consider the ethics behind investigations, the origins of maritime archaeology and what we mean when we say that shipwrecks are part of the maritime landscape.

To book on this course, [click here](#)



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

In this course you will learn how to create a short film or a short audio-visual project it will take you

from the theory to the practice of film-making through an exploration of the work of well-known directors and hands-on practice in how to visually compose and create your own stories.

Throughout the course you will learn about some of the core cinematographic skills from scripting, directing, shooting, aesthetics and editing. By the end of the course you will have acquired some of the basic tools of film-making and had the opportunity to create your own project.

To book on this course, [click here](#)



Image credit: wayhomestudio at Freepik.com

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?

The course will move from discussing the writings of Jane Austen and her continued influence today. It will then move on to the Victorian writers like Mary Shelley and the Brontë sisters. The course will then engage with an overview of the three waves of feminism in the coming weeks. It will explore what each of these feminist waves entailed and the writing that emerged as a result. We will take a slight detour in week 4 to look at women writing crime fiction, with a focus on Agatha Christie, to think about whether this field of writing is male-dominated.

To book on this course, [click here](#)

Get Ready for your Summer Holidays with our Summer Intensive Language courses



Above: Some of our previous summer language course learners, enjoying a session on Spanish

Whether you are planning a trip abroad and don't want to be tongue-tied in the bar or just want to get a taste of a new language then our Summer Intensive Language Courses are a great way to get started.

Running in the evenings over two weeks in July (five sessions, each three hours long) our summer intensive language courses are designed for complete beginners who wish to gain some basic skills in a new language. This year we are offering:

- **Mandarin Chinese**
- **French**
- **German**
- **Japanese (online only)**
- **Italian**
- **Spanish**

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

For more information and to book please visit:
https://www.southampton.ac.uk/lifelonglearning/modern_languages/intensive.page

Save the Date

Lifelong Learning Open Day

Saturday 23rd September 2023

10.00 – 14.00

As usual we will be opening our doors to welcome both new and returning students at our Lifelong Learning Open Day. This is a great opportunity to try out a couple of languages before committing to more longer term learning or to get a flavour of

one of our other Arts and Humanities themed courses which will be on offer in October. More details will be published soon on the LLL website.

Lifelong Learning Term Dates 2023/24

Term 1 (Autumn Term)	9th October 2023 to 15th December 2023
Term 2 (Spring Term)	8th January 2024 to 15th March 2024
Term 3 (Summer Term)	15th April 2024 to 21st June 2024
Bank Holidays	6th May and 27th May 2024