

Daily Life and the Afterlife in Ancient Egypt

Start date 26 February 2016 **End date** 28 February 2016

Venue Madingley Hall
 Madingley
 Cambridge

Tutor Dr. Garry Shaw **Course code** 1516NRX072

Director of Programmes Emma Jennings
For further information on this Public Programme Co-ordinator, Clare Kerr
course, please contact clare.kerr@ice.cam.ac.uk or 01223 746237

To book See: www.ice.cam.ac.uk or telephone 01223 746262

Tutor biography

Dr. Garry Shaw gained his PhD in Egyptology from the University of Liverpool, where he also lectured in Egyptian history, and has since taught at the American University in Cairo, the Egypt Exploration Society, and the Oxford University Department for Continuing Education. He is the author of four books, including *The Pharaoh, Life at Court and on Campaign* (2012), and *The Egyptian Myths, A Guide to the Ancient Gods and Legends* (2014), and has written numerous articles on heritage and history. His aim, whether teaching or writing, is to bring the past alive in an accessible, yet academically rigorous, manner.

Course programme

Friday

Please plan to arrive between 16:30 and 18:30. You can meet other course members in the bar which opens at 18:15. Tea and coffee making facilities are available in the study bedrooms.

19:00	Dinner
20:30 – 22:00	The Ancient Egyptian Family
22:00	Terrace bar open for informal discussion

Saturday

07:30	Breakfast
09:00 – 10:30	Education and Career
10:30	Coffee
11:00 – 12:30	Morality, Crime and Punishment
13:00	Lunch
14:00 – 16:00	Free
16:00	Tea
16:30 – 18:00	The Built Environment
18:00 – 18:30	Free
18:30	Dinner
20:00 – 21:30	Religious Beliefs and Magic
21:30	Terrace bar open for informal discussion

Sunday

07:30	Breakfast
09:00 – 10:30	Death, Mummification and Burial
10:30	Coffee
11:00 – 12:30	The Afterlife: The Book of the Dead, Osiris' Judgement and the Field of Reeds
12:45	Lunch

The course will disperse after lunch

Course syllabus

Aims:

This course will:

1. Introduce participants to aspects of social life and the afterlife in ancient Egypt using both archaeological and textual data from the Pharaonic Period.
2. Introduce students to the evidence available to Egyptologists when trying to reconstruct ancient Egyptian daily life and afterlife beliefs.

Content:

In this weekend course, participants will explore daily life in ancient Egypt from birth to death and beyond. Along the way, they will learn about childbirth, family, education, careers, morality, crime, the built environment, religion, magic, mummification, funerals, tombs, the judgement of Osiris and the afterlife paradise known as the Field of Reeds.

Within these subjects, we will discuss the important concept of *maat*, encompassing truth, justice and correct balance in the world; tomb autobiographies that shed light on how the Egyptians lived; archaeological evidence for housing and its development over time, particularly at the sites of Memphis, Tell el-Amarna and Deir el-Medina; and the gods that the Egyptians worshipped – both the important state gods, such as Osiris and Anubis, and the less well-known gods worshipped by the Egyptians in their own homes. We will also examine the importance of the tomb and funeral in society, as well as the various elements of the Egyptian soul, which were believed to separate at the moment of death and could only be reunited through ritual. Finally, students will be taken on a journey through the afterlife realm, and learn how members of the blessed dead spent their afterlives.

Presentation of the course:

The course will be taught as a series of lectures, using PowerPoint presentations.

Outcomes: As a result of the course, within the constraints of the time available, students should be able to:

1. Demonstrate an understanding of how the ancient Egyptians lived during different phases of their civilization, and how they conceptualized the afterlife and dealt with death.
2. Have developed their ability to approach ancient evidence and evaluate and analyse it.
3. Demonstrate knowledge of how scholars have assembled our understanding of ancient Egyptian social life and afterlife from archaeological and textual data.
4. Have an understanding of current scholarly thinking on social life and the afterlife in ancient Egypt.
5. Have the personal confidence to take their studies into ancient Egypt further if desired.

Reading and resources list

Listed below are a number of texts that might be of interest for future reference, but do not need to be bought (or consulted) for the course.

Author	Title	Publisher and date
Ikram, S.	<i>Death and Burial in Ancient Egypt</i>	The American University in Cairo Press, 2015
Ikram, S., and Dodson, A.	<i>The Mummy in Ancient Egypt: Equipping the Dead for Eternity</i>	Thames and Hudson, 1998
Ikram, S., and Dodson, A.	<i>The Tomb in Ancient Egypt: Royal and Private Sepulchres from the Early Dynastic Period to the Romans</i>	Thames and Hudson, 2008
Janssen, R.M., and Janssen, J.J.	<i>Growing Up and Getting Old in Ancient Egypt</i>	Golden House, 2007
Kemp, B. J.	<i>How to Read the Egyptian Book of the Dead</i>	Granta Books, 2007
Shaw, G. J.	<i>The Egyptian Myths, A Guide to the Ancient Gods and Legends</i>	Thames and Hudson, 2014
Spencer, A. J.	<i>Death in Ancient Egypt</i>	Penguin Books, 1982
Strouhal, E.	<i>Life of the Ancient Egyptians</i>	Liverpool University Press, 1992
Szpakowska, K.	<i>Daily Life in Ancient Egypt: Recreating Lahun</i>	Blackwell Publishing, 2008
Taylor, J. H.	<i>Death and the Afterlife in Ancient Egypt</i>	University of Chicago Press, 2001
Taylor, J. H.	<i>Journey Through the Afterlife: Ancient Egyptian Book of Dead</i>	British Museum Press, 2010

Website addresses

Digital Egypt for Universities: <http://www.ucl.ac.uk/museums-static/digitalegypt/>

Note Students of the Institute of Continuing Education are entitled to 20% discount on books published by Cambridge University Press (CUP) which are purchased at the Press bookshop, 1 Trinity Street, Cambridge (Mon-Sat 9am – 5:30pm, Sun 11am – 5pm). A letter or email confirming acceptance on to a current Institute course should be taken as evidence of enrolment.

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