



Advanced French: Marie-Antoinette l'incomprise

Start date 17th March 2017

End date 19th March 2017

Venue Madingley Hall
Madingley
Cambridge

Tutor Francine Rouanet-
Démocrate

Course code 1617NRX087

Director of Programmes

Emma Jennings

For further information on this course, please contact

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

Tutor biography

Francine has over 35 years' experience of teaching languages, using cultural references to bring life and meaning to the learning process. Francine, was until 2008, the Director of the local world renowned non-profit organisation, the *Alliance Française de Cambridge*; consisting of over 30 language and cultural professionals reporting to a committee of trustees.

Francine's life work was recognised in the 1999 by the French Government. She received the award of '*Chevalier dans l'Ordre des Palmes Académiques*' (similar to MBE) in acknowledgement of her efforts to forge links between France and the United Kingdom

Course Programme:

These advanced courses are designed for those with a good mastery of French and you will be expected to undertake prior reading to participate actively in the course. The linguistic level required is Advanced; that is, B2–C1 according to the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages, but slightly less fluent participants are very welcome too. A certain lack of confidence in oral expression at first will soon be overcome. It is essential that the comprehension of spoken and written French is good.

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	Présentation des participants. Présentation rapide de <i>Marie-Antoinette</i> , de son époque, des grands noms du siècle de Louis XV et Louis XVI : Brise-glace à partir d'images (diaporama) et de noms pour préparer la réflexion (compréhension et expression orales). Remise du dossier.
22:00	Terrace bar open for informal discussion

Saturday

09:00 – 10:30	“ <i>Marie-Antoinette qui êtes-vous?</i> ”(1). Etude de sa biographie / présentation de ses contemporains: présentation de son entourage familial et amical / l'impératrice Marie-Thérèse d'Autriche, sa mère/ Joseph, son frère / le comte de Mercy-Argenteau, l'ambassadeur/ l'abbé de Frémond / Louis XV / Mme du Barry / les tantes du dauphin / Louis XVI / Mme de Polignac / le comte Axel Fersen / Mme de Staël etc.../ (Etude de documents audio & visuels / compréhension écrite et orale et expression orale)
10:30	Coffee
11:00 – 12:30	“ <i>Marie-Antoinette qui êtes-vous?</i> ”(2). Etude de sa personnalité / la vie de reine / difficultés conjugales / la cour de Versailles / le petit Trianon / les arts / la mode / les caprices / les dépenses / les scandales : « <i>l'affaire du collier</i> » / mais aussi une mère attentive et pédagogue / lecture de Rousseau / intérêt politique / (Etude de documents audio & visuels / compréhension écrite et orale et expression orale / discussion)
13:00	Lunch
14:30	Free
16:00	Tea

16:30 – 18:00 Dernier été à Versailles / la tragédie d'octobre 1789 / la fuite à Varennes / les débuts de la révolution / la chute de la monarchie / la mort du roi / la prison de la Conciergerie / procès et mort de la reine (Etude de documents audio & visuels / compréhension écrite et orale et expression orale / discussion)

18:30 Dinner

20:00 – 21:30 Projection de film (Titre à confirmer)

21:30 Terrace bar open for informal discussion

Sunday

09:00 – 10:30 Etude de textes (1): lecture et analyse d'extraits de la biographie de Stefan Zweig « Marie-Antoinette » (1937) / du livre d'Evelyne Lever « Marie-Antoinette, journal d'une reine » (2002) / du livre Emmanuel de Waresquiel « Juger la reine » (2016) et extraits de quelques lettres. (Lecture & travaux d'écriture compréhension écrite et orale)

10:30 Coffee

11:00 – 12:30 Etude de textes (2): suite et fin / évaluation des connaissances / bilan du cours / productions personnelles / présentations individuelles (facultatif). Conclusion.

Lunch

12:45

The course will disperse after lunch

Course syllabus

Aims:

Expand the general knowledge of the participants about France, French culture and history
Learn more about the last French Queen Marie-Antoinette, a very controversial and fascinating character, whose tragic destiny inspired numerous studies by historians and writers

Try and discover through the study of various documents a little more of the truth behind the myth and get an insight into Marie-Antoinette's personality, her intimate feelings and actions as a woman, as a mother and as a queen.

Content:

The topic should enable the participants to learn more about the historical background between the dates Marie-Antoinette was born in 1755 and when she was executed in 1793. There will be a presentation of her contemporaries, her family and her entourage. There will be the analysis of a few biographical studies, books, films and documents with a view to clarify substantive issues arising from the topic. In turn she was looked upon as an enemy of the people, a traitor, a criminal even or a victim of the French revolution. Marie-Antoinette remains to this day a mysterious and fascinating woman as well as an eminent royal figure. Her extraordinary short life leaves us with queries. The main question raised is whether she deserved to end so tragically. Was her trial a fair one, was her punishment justified? Apart from pure historical and politician aspects the topic will offer a great number of psychological and human factors to explore and discuss in an attempt to get closer to the truth. We will also draw a parallel with the life and death of a more contemporary royal person (in a totally different context of course), that of the equally mediatised, criticised and beloved Princess Diana.

Presentation of the course:

The aim of the course is to create a balance between the presentation of the course material and the participants' comprehension followed by verbal contribution (analysis / questions / comments / discussion / debate etc.....)

Based on a selection of varied documents (printed / audio/ visual) the course will involve all skills.

There will be elements of creative writing / team work and various linguistic activities.

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

1. development of knowledge and understanding of the academic content of the course.
2. development of academic skills such as analysis, synthesis, evaluation and the application of tools and methods.
3. personal development. This is often an intangible but keenly felt outcome (e.g. self-awareness, personal confidence, learner autonomy etc.

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
Stefan Zweig + Any book on the topic in French or in English	<i>Marie-Antoinette</i>	<i>Livre de Poche</i> (Edition 2015) / Photocopies of extracts available from Madingley by 20/01/17

Website Addresses

https://fr.wikipedia.org/wiki/Marie-Antoinette_d'Autriche

<http://www.chateauversailles.fr/l-histoire/personnages-de-cour/epoque-louis-xvi/marie-antoinette->
or any other useful link in French or in English

Note Students of the Institute of Continuing Education are entitled to a 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.

Information correct as of 19th December 2016