

THE HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT

Start date	19 Jan 2019	End date	19 Jan 2019
Venue	Madingley Hall Madingley Cambridge		
Tutor	Caroline Shenton	Course code	1819NDX019

Director of Academic Centres Sarah Ormrod

For further information on this course, please contact Head of Academic Centre Administration, Zara Kuckelhaus
zara.kuckelhaus@ice.cam.ac.uk or 01223 746204

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

Tutor biography

Dr Caroline Shenton is an archivist, historian and writer. She was formerly Director of the Parliamentary Archives in London, and before that was a senior archivist at the National Archives. She was Chair of the executive board for the AHRC-funded Virtual St Stephen's Chapel Westminster project, a collaboration between the University of York, Parliament and the Institute of Historical Research to research and reconstruct one of Britain's greatest lost buildings. Her first popular history book [The Day Parliament Burned Down](#) won the Political Book of the Year Award in 2013 and was shortlisted for the Longman/History Today prize. Its highly-acclaimed sequel, [Mr Barry's War](#), about the rebuilding of the Palace of Westminster, was a Book of the Year in 2016 for *The Daily Telegraph* and *BBC History Magazine* and was shortlisted for the People's Non-Fiction Book Prize. Caroline teaches Public History to postgraduates at the [Centre for Archives and Information Studies](#) at the University of Dundee, and during 2017 was a Political Writer in Residence at [Gladstone's Library](#). She is currently working on her third popular history book...not about Parliament!

Course programme

09:30	Terrace bar open for pre-course tea/coffee
10:00 – 11:15	The Day Parliament Burned Down: 1834 and the old Palace of Westminster
11:15	Coffee
11:45 – 13:00	Mr Barry's War: Building the New Houses of Parliament
13:00	Lunch
14:00 – 15:15	Votes for Women! Female Suffrage and the Houses of Parliament
15:15	Tea
15:30 – 16:45	From Bombing to Restoration & Renewal: The Twentieth Century to the Present
16:45	Day-school ends

Course syllabus

Aims:

- The aim of this day school is to introduce students to the rich and complex history, art and architecture of the Houses of Parliament, a World Heritage Site since 1987; and for students to gain a better appreciation of the context of the current multi-billion pound restoration plans.

Content:

Topics to be covered on the course are:

- The art and architecture of Britain's most famous building, a World Heritage Site since 1987.
- The origins of the Houses of Parliament as the medieval Palace of Westminster and how the layout and functions of the ancient Palace later shaped politics over centuries
- The story of the disaster of 1834, when the medieval Palace burned down; how artists, particularly JMW Turner responded to it; and its impact on late Georgian and early Victorian society
- The practical, political and reputational struggles to build the new Houses of Parliament; the relationship between the architect Charles Barry and the designer A.W.N. Pugin; how decisions made then have led to problems in the 21st century
- How the campaign for female suffrage impacted the building, and was reflected in suffrage art
- How disasters and human interventions have made it the building it is today.

These themes are spread over multiple lectures, across the day.

Presentation of the course:

- Four illustrated lectures, with question and answer sessions
- A small display of artefacts from the Old Palace and some contemporary engravings will be available for study in the breaks
- Signed copies of the tutor's own books will be available at 40% discount for students

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

- Outline a basic chronology of the site of the Houses of Parliament from the 11th century to the present.
- Give examples of how the building's architecture has influenced British politics over time.
- Describe a range of decorative and fine art related to the Old and New Houses of Parliament, including recent work commissioned to mark the centenary of women first getting the vote.
- Explain why the Houses of Parliament today needs restoration and what that will comprise.

Reading and resources list

Listed below are texts that might be of interest should you wish to supplement your learning on the course. Any essential reading is marked with an asterisk *

A comprehensive reading list will be supplied on the day.

Website addresses

Parliament www.parliament.uk

Art in Parliament www.parliament.uk/art

Parliamentary Archives www.parliament.uk/archives

History of Parliament <https://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/>

Tutor's website and blog on the Palace: www.carolineshenton.co.uk

Tutor's Twitter Account: @dustshoveller

Tutor's Facebook Page: Caroline Shenton Historian

Additional information

Venue

Details of how to find Madingley Hall can be found on our website:
<http://www.ice.cam.ac.uk/who-we-are/how-to-find-the-institute>

Refreshments

Tea and coffee and lunch will be provided. If you have any specific dietary requirements or allergies and have not already advised us, please inform our Admissions Team on ice.admissions@ice.cam.ac.uk or +44 (0)1223 746262.

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.

Information correct as of: 07 December 2018