The Short Stories of D. H. Lawrence

Start date 21 June 2019

End date 23 June 2019

Venue Madingley Hall
Madingley
Cambridge
CB23 8AQ

Tutor Professor Jem Poster

Course code 1819NRX041

Tutor biography

Jem Poster worked as an archaeologist, surveying and excavating a range of sites on behalf of the Inspectorate of Ancient Monuments, before taking up an administrative post with Cambridge University's Institute of Continuing Education in 1987. From 1993 to 2003 he was University Lecturer in Literature with Oxford University's Department for Continuing Education and a fellow of Kellogg College. From 2003 to 2012 he was Professor of Creative Writing at Aberystwyth University, and is now Emeritus Professor. He is the author of two novels, Courting Shadows (Sceptre, 2002) and Rifling Paradise (Sceptre, 2006), as well as a collection of poetry, Brought to Light (Bloodaxe, 2001), and is editor of volume 3 of the six-volume Oxford University Press Edward Thomas: Prose Writings (OUP, 2018). He has won prizes in major poetry competitions including first prize in both the Cardiff International Poetry Competition in 1995 and the Peterloo Poets Open Poetry Competition in 2001. He has been Chair of the editorial board of Wales’s leading literary journal, New Welsh Review and Programme Advisor to Cambridge University’s MSt in Creative Writing. He works extensively for Cambridge University’s Institute of Continuing Education, most notably as Director of its Summer Programme in Creative Writing. He is Director of Academic Programmes for the Financial Times Oxford Literary Festival and a regular tutor in the Guardian Masterclass series. In 2014 he spent four months as Writer in Residence at Arizona State University.
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**  Session 1  Introduction; ‘Love among the Haystacks’

22:00  Terrace bar open for informal discussion

Saturday

07:30  Breakfast

**09:00 – 10:30**  Session 2  ‘The White Stocking’; ‘Odour of Chrysanthemums’

10:30  Coffee

**11:00 – 12:30**  Session 3  ‘The Prussian Officer’

13:00  Lunch

14:00 – 16:00  Free

16:00  Tea

**16:30 – 18:00**  Session 4  ‘England, My England’

18:00 – 18:30  Free

18:30  Dinner

**20:00 – 21:30**  Session 5  ‘The Horse-Dealer’s Daughter’

21:30  Terrace bar open for informal discussion

Sunday

07:30  Breakfast

**09:00 – 10:30**  Session 6  ‘Sun’

10:30  Coffee

**11:00 – 12:30**  Session 7  ‘The Rocking-Horse Winner’; ‘Things’; conclusion

12:45  Lunch

The course will disperse after lunch
Course syllabus

Aims:

1. to explore the relationship between the writer's work and its wider context;
2. to analyse the stories under review;
3. to gain a clearer sense of the writer’s achievement.

Content:

D. H. Lawrence's achievement was remarkable. In the course of his short life he produced an astonishing amount of work – novels, poetry, essays and short stories – much of it highly innovative in its focus and its techniques. This course will examine a selection of his short stories in detail, picking up on such matters as his ground-breaking approach to human relationships, his understanding of working-class experience, his love of the natural world and his defiantly individual voice.

We shall be using the Penguin *D. H. Lawrence: Selected Stories* (edited by Sue Wilson). Please try to read all the stories in the book (the whole selection amounts only to the length of an average novel) but we shall be focusing primarily on the nine stories listed above in the course programme, and it will be enough to have read those. **Please bring a copy of the selection to the course.**

Presentation of the course:

The course will take the form of a series of seminars, in which group discussion will be actively encouraged; the majority of these discussions will focus on the texts themselves, which will be analysed in detail.

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

1. place the writer in his wider context and understand more clearly the implications and meaning of his work;
2. gain greater confidence in their approach to the analysis of literary texts in general.
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 *

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<th>Author</th>
<th>Title</th>
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Website addresses

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, lunch and dinner will be provided as outlined in the timetable. 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: 29 April 2019*