

‘Attributes of a Victory’ – Britain at War 1939 - 1941

Start date 26th July 2019 **End date** 28th July 2019

Venue Madingley Hall
 Madingley
 Cambridge

Tutor Dr Andrew Lacey **Course code** 1819NRX051

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:

After a first degree in History Andrew completed a postgraduate degree in Library and Information Studies. From the late 1980s he worked as a professional librarian in a variety of Colleges and Universities, including College Librarian at Trinity Hall, Cambridge, Special Collections Librarian at the University of Leicester, and in the University of Cambridge, Faculty of Architecture and History of Art.

Andrew never lost his enthusiasm for history; in 1999 he was awarded a Ph.D. for work on King Charles I and taught in continuing education for many years in tandem with his job as a librarian. Around 2006 Andrew decided to devote himself full-time to teaching history in continuing education, research and writing. He considers himself privileged to be a Tutor and Panel Tutor for the Continuing Education departments at both the University of Cambridge and the University of Oxford and, apart from 16th and 17th century British and European history, Andrew has for many years been interested in 19th and 20th century Britain and Europe, and in particular the Second World War and the rise and fall of Fascism and National Socialism.

His latest book, on the English Civil War, was published in 2017 and Andrew has also written and tutors three online courses for Cambridge, two on the Tudors and one on Hitler and the Nazis, as well as one for Oxford on the English Civil War – never a dull moment!

Website: www.andrewlacey.co.uk

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 Phoney War, 1939 - 1940
22:00	Terrace bar open for informal discussion

Saturday

07:30	Breakfast
09:00 – 10:30	The Fall of France
10:30	Coffee
11:00 – 12:30	Dunkirk
13:00	Lunch
14:00 – 16:00	Free, or optional film: 'Alone! Britain May 1940 – May 1941.' From <i>The World at War</i> . (1973 – 74.)
16:00	Tea
16:30 – 18:00	The Battle of Britain
18:00 – 18:30	Free
18:30	Dinner
20:00 – 21:30	Should the Invader Come! Preparing to resist
21:30	Terrace bar open for informal discussion

Sunday

07:30	Breakfast
09:00 – 10:30	The Blitz
10:30	Coffee
11:00 – 12:30	The End of the Beginning
12:45	Lunch

The course will disperse after lunch

Course syllabus

Aims:

- To introduce the main narrative and personalities of the period.
- To discuss some of the controversies surrounding the Battle of Britain and negotiating an armistice with Hitler in May-June 1940.
- To examine the ways the British people responded to the demands of war.

Content:

The course will begin with the anti-climax of the so-called Phoney War when the expected assault upon Britain and Western Europe did not materialize.

This changed dramatically on the 10th May 1940 when the Nazis invaded Holland, Belgium and France and Winston Churchill replaced Neville Chamberlain as Prime Minister. We will consider the desperate rear-guard actions of the Dunkirk evacuations, the Battle of Britain and the Blitz as Britain braced itself to resist invasion. Aspects of the ways in which the authorities sought to prepare the people to cope with invasion will be covered on the Saturday evening.

With the defeat of the Luftwaffe in Autumn 1940 the threat of invasion receded and the course will end with a consideration of Britain's position in 1941, which saw Hitler invade the Soviet Union in June and Japan attack America at Pearl Harbor in December.

Presentation of the course:

The course will be presented as a series of illustrated lecture/seminars. Relevant student discussion within each session is encouraged and, where possible, contemporary film will be used.

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

- Have some understanding of the events and personalities involved
- Understand something of the historical controversies surrounding key events
- Discuss something of the significance of Britain's 'finest hour.'

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 *

Author	Title	Publisher and date
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[Please see attached list.]

Website addresses

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: 05 July 2019