



The Impressionists: painters of modern life

Start date Friday 19 November 2021 **End date** Sunday 21 November 2021

Venue Madingley Hall
Madingley
Cambridge
CB23 8AQ

Tutor Jo Rhymer **Course code** 2122NRX067

Director of ISP and LL Sarah Ormrod

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Tutor biography

Jo Rhymer MA is an accredited lecturer for The Arts Society and currently lectures in a freelance capacity for organisations including the Wallace Collection and the V&A Museum as well as a range of private institutions. She has previously been employed in various roles at the National Gallery including Head of Adult Learning Programmes and, in a freelance capacity, she has taught for prestigious learning departments in London galleries and institutions including Tate, the Hayward Gallery, the National Portrait Gallery and Sotheby's Institute of Art; she also leads cultural excursions in the UK and abroad.

Her areas of interest include 19th century and early 20th century French art and she is particularly interested in the visual skills involved in sustained looking at paintings.

Course programme

Friday

Please plan to arrive between 16:30 and 18:30. You can meet other course members in the Terrace 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 emergence of Impressionism
22:00	Terrace Bar open for informal discussion

Saturday

07:30	Breakfast
09:00 – 10:30	Impressions of Paris
10:30	Coffee
11:00 – 12:30	Impressionist models
13:00	Lunch
14:00 – 16:00	Free time
16:00	Tea
16:30 – 18:00	Frédéric Bazille in focus
18:00 – 18:30	Free time
18:30	Dinner
20:00 – 21:30	Women's impressions
21:30	Terrace Bar open for informal discussion

Sunday

07:30	Breakfast
09:00 – 10:30	Beyond Paris
10:30	Coffee
11:00 – 12:30	Beyond Impressions
12:45	Lunch

The course will disperse after lunch

Course syllabus

Aims:

The course will introduce students to:

- 1) Some of the key Impressionist paintings as well as less well-known, but nevertheless significant, artists who contributed to the movement
- 2) Some of the reasons why Impressionism is considered to be a key moment in the development of modern art

Content:

Join this thematic course to explore French Impressionist paintings by key artists including Monet, Renoir and Morisot. We will also consider less well-known but no less innovative artists in order to understand better the range of works associated with this avant-garde movement.

We will discuss the critical reception of Impressionism during the 1870s and 1880s as well as the broader socio-historical context within which the style developed. The influence of Paris - the capital of art in the 19th century – will be examined particularly as an inspiration for depicting modern life. We will think about the role of models in some of the paintings and we will look at significant works by women artists. Beyond Paris, we will discuss Impressionist paintings of the suburbs and countryside.

Within certain sessions, there will be a spotlight on one or two images where we will look carefully and slowly to unpack paintings. There will be opportunities to discuss ideas and to assess the impact of this ground-breaking moment in the history of modern art.

Presentation of the course:

The course will involve illustrated lectures, group interaction and close looking at key paintings of the period.

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

- 1) Identify key painters and characteristics of the Impressionist style.
- 2) Demonstrate visual analysis skills.
- 3) Give examples of artists and paintings associated with Impressionism which have been discussed on the course.

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
Denise Murrell	<i>Posing Modernity: The Black Model from Manet and Matisse to Today</i>	Yale University Press, 2018
Charles Harrison et al	<i>Art in Theory 1815-1900: An Anthology of Changing Ideas</i>	Oxford, Blackwell, 1998
C. S. Moffett	<i>The New Painting: Impressionism 1874-1886</i>	Fine Arts Museum of San Francisco, 1992
J, K. Huysmans 1883 text translated by Brendan King	<i>Modern Art</i>	Sawtry, Cambs Dedalus, 2019

Website addresses for Impressionism

[Impressionism: Art and Modernity | Essay | The Metropolitan Museum of Art | Heilbrunn Timeline of Art History \(metmuseum.org\)](#)

<https://www.musee-orsay.fr/fr/collections>

[The National Gallery, London](#)

[Visit The Courtauld Gallery | The Courtauld](#)

[Art of Europe | Museum of Fine Arts, Boston \(mfa.org\)](#)
