

The Oxford Experience 2009

Sunday 5 July – Saturday 8 August 2009
at Christ Church, Oxford

The Oxford Experience gives you the opportunity to stay in one of the most impressive and beautiful Colleges of Oxford University.

This is a residential programme of one-week courses designed for non-specialists. It offers a choice of ten to twelve seminars each week over a period of five weeks. Participants do not need any formal qualifications to take part, just an interest in their chosen subject and a desire to meet like-minded people.

Although most participants are native speakers of English, non-native speakers are made very welcome. All of the seminars are easily accessible to anyone who enjoys watching films in English or listening to radio broadcasts. Indeed, many teachers of English language from Europe and further afield find attending one of these seminars an ideal way of updating their knowledge of English while learning more about a particular topic.

As a resident guest at Christ Church, participants have access to many areas closed to the general public and they enjoy an insider's view of current student life in the college. Participants stay in student accommodation and dine in the hall (Oxford's largest). Most of the site is open to participants, including the cathedral, the picture gallery and the riverside walks in Christ Church meadow.

The size of the seminar groups is kept small – normally no more than 12 people are registered for any course. Many of the seminars include an excursion and these form an integral part of the course.

The preliminary list of topics chosen for 2009 is listed overleaf. Please note that there may be a few changes made to the details before the confirmed list is posted on our website on 1 September.



Provisional List of Courses
as at 17 July 2008

WEEK 1 (5 - 11 July)

The Reign of Henry VIII – Glen Richardson
TBC Napoleon – Britain's Most Dangerous Enemy - Chris Danziger – tbc
The Life of Sir Winston Churchill – Annette Mayer
Inspired by Oxford – Creative Writing – Chris Sykes
The Novels of Jane Austen – Val Dodd
The Victorian and Edwardian Detective Story – Philip Healy
Alice's Adventures in Oxford – Edward Wakeling
The Archeology of Medieval Palaces – Graham Keevill
English Country Houses – Nick Doggett
Treasures of the Ashmolean and the British Museum – Gail Bent
Lost Gods and Old Religions – Robin Gibbons

WEEK 2 (12 - 18 July)

The Golden Age of Anglo-Saxon England – Dave Beard
The Real Queen Victoria – Annette Mayer
Charles Darwin – Emma Townsend
The Titanic in Myth and Memory – Tim Barrett
The Battle of Britain Revisited – Rikky Rooksby
Roman Britain – Mark Hassall
The Brontes – Val Dodd
Shakespeare in Oxford – Chris Sykes
The Garden in Art – Victoria Condie
Enjoying the Cotswolds – Mike Breakell
The History of the English Language – Julia Cresswell

WEEK 3 (19 - 25 July)

Myths and Legends of the British Isles – Julia Cresswell
The Making of England – Dave Beard
Cross versus Crescent – Trevor Rowley
The Oxford Movement – Kate Tiller
Victorian Scandals – Kees Windland
Kingship and Politics in Shakespeare – Rikky Rooksby
Oxford Novels – Val Dodd
Handel - Jonathan Darnborough & Claire-Louise Lucas
The Brain and Human Behaviour – Gillie McNeil
The Good Life (Philosophy) – Dan Dennis
An Introduction to Cosmology – Tim Barrett

WEEK 4 (26 July - 1 August)

The Englishman's Castle – Trevor Rowley
Colleges of Oxford – Julian Munby
Shrines, Relics and Pilgrimage in Medieval England – Dave Beard
Elizabeth I – Janet Dickinson
Georgian Scandals – Shirley Matthews
Without Rules: Terrorism Today – Mark Radford
Exploring the Human Brain – Gillie McNeil
What makes a Masterpiece – Valerie Holman - tbc
Dickens – Rikky Rooksby

WEEK 5 (2 - 8 August)

Archaeology and Religion in Ancient Israel and Judah – Garth Gilmour
King Arthur and the British Dark Ages – Trevor Rowley
Monasteries and Cathedrals – James Bond
Renaissance Courts – Janet Dickinson
Oxford Murder – Michael Harrison
The English Country House – Antony Buxton
Moral and Political Philosophy – Alexandra Couto
The Beatles, Popular Music and Sixties Britain – Rikky Rooksby

The confirmed list will be available on our website on 1 September 2008
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