

Course Information Sheet

Exploring Myth & Legend



Course Summary: Embark on a journey through time and uncover the secrets of the past, exploring historical research and archaeological methods to understand how we learn about bygone eras.

Course Description:

This 8-week course offers a captivating exploration of the past, delving into the methods and techniques used to uncover historical knowledge. Learn how historians and archaeologists work, how they evaluate evidence, and how they construct narratives about bygone societies.

Through a series of case studies, you'll investigate key events and discoveries from across history, including the Roman Empire, the Norman Conquest, the Wars of the Roses, and the Cold War. You'll also explore archaeological sites and artifacts, gaining insights into the daily lives, beliefs, and social structures of past peoples.

What will I learn?

Weeks 1-4: Discovering the past through historical research

- Week 1: What is history?
 - Define history and its significance in understanding the present.
 - Discuss the role of historians and their methods of inquiry.
- Week 2: How do historians work?
 - Explore the process of historical research, including source analysis and interpretation.
 - Discuss the challenges and limitations of historical research.
- Week 3: Trusting primary and secondary sources

- Learn to evaluate the reliability and authenticity of primary and secondary sources.
- Discuss bias, perspective, and context in historical sources.
- Week 4: Case studies in historical research
 - Analyze a selection of case studies from across history, including:
 - Emperor Nero
 - Norman Conquest
 - Wars of the Roses
 - Witch trials in Britain
 - The Enlightenment
 - Death of Prince Albert
 - Russian Revolution
 - The Cold War

Weeks 5-8: Discovering the past through archaeology

- Week 5: What is archaeology?
 - Define archaeology and its role in uncovering the past.
 - Discuss the different branches of archaeology and their methods.
- Week 6: How do archaeologists work?
 - Explore the process of archaeological excavation and analysis.
 - Discuss the use of technology and scientific methods in archaeology.
- Week 7: How much can we know from archaeology?
 - Evaluate the reliability and limitations of archaeological evidence.
 - Discuss the interpretation of archaeological findings and the construction of narratives.
- Week 8: Case studies in British archaeology
 - Analyze a selection of case studies from British archaeology, with a focus on Devon and Cornwall where possible, including:
 - Archaeology of religion

- Forensics and human remains
- Burial and grave goods
- Archaeology of social structure
- Archaeology of trade and economics
- Underwater archaeology
- Archaeology of settlements and buildings
- Archaeology of warfare

How will I be assessed?

- Formative: Participation in class discussions and weekly reflective writing prompts.
- Summative: A final research project on a chosen historical or archaeological topic, and a presentation summarizing key findings.

Who is this course for?

This course is designed for anyone with an interest in history, archaeology, and learning about the past, regardless of prior knowledge or background.

Progression Opportunities:

Upon completion, learners can consider further educational opportunities in history, archaeology, anthropology, or related fields. Explore higher education programs or specialized courses to deepen your understanding of the past.

Career or Job Enhancement Pathways:

- Historian: Conduct research, analyze sources, and write historical accounts.
- Archivist: Preserve and manage historical documents and records.
- Museum Curator: Develop exhibits and educational programs related to history and archaeology.

- Archaeologist: Conduct excavations, analyze artifacts, and interpret archaeological findings.

How do I enrol?

The quickest way to enrol is online at www.oncoursesouthwest.co.uk, simply create an account and select 'Enrol now'. Alternatively, if you have any questions, please call our friendly customer service team on 01752 660713.

How will the course be delivered?

This is a practical course, and the sessions will include tutor-led demonstrations, learner-led group activities, instruction and repetition. These will form part of the delivery together with one-to-one support as required.

Will I need to practise outside the classroom?

You will be encouraged to review your notes between lessons to ensure maximum benefit from your course. It is always useful to practise your skills between sessions. Your tutor may encourage home learning, or independent research.

How will I know I'm making progress?

During the first session, your tutor will discuss your goals and current level in relation to the course. Based on this assessment, you will agree individual targets which you will record in your individual learning plan (ILP). You and your tutor will review your targets regularly to ensure that you are making progress; these will be written in your individual learning plan.

What will I need?

Please bring a notepad, and pen to each session. You may wish to bring a file for any handouts. A laptop with internet access is required for completion of coursework and home learning outside of the classroom.

Please note:

Most courses attract a subsidy from the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA). It is a requirement of the ESFA that you complete various forms at different stages of your course, further information is available on request. Courses are subject to a minimum number of enrolments and could be cancelled if recruitment is low. In some cases, an alternative class at a different location may be offered.

Terms and conditions are available at

<https://www.oncoursesouthwest.co.uk/learner-information/essential-information-for-every-learner>

Room numbers are subject to change - please check when you arrive at the venue.

