after:hours Centre for Languages, Culture and Communication

**Course Descriptor**

**Course Title:** Western Art from Classicism to Impressionism

**Type of Course:** Adult Education

**Credit:** Not credit bearing

**Weekly Session Titles and Descriptions**

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| Week | Session Title |
| 1 | Iconography of Venus |
| 2 | Cupid & Mars |
| 3 | Iconography of Adorations & Annunciations |
| 4 | Iconography: Saints & Sinners |
| 5 | Byzantine and Gothic  |
| 6 | Medieval and Gothic  |
| 7 | Florentine Renaissance |
| 8 | Art and Reformation in Northern Renaissance Europe |
| 9 | Botticelli & Florence |
| 10 | Leonardo, Projects, Patrons & Peregrinations |
| 11 | Raphael and the End of the Renaissance |
| 12 | The Rise of the Divine Michelangelo |
| 13 | Titian and the Venetian Masters |
| 14 |  Baroque, Carracci to Bernini - A New Direction |
| 15 | Northern Baroque in England - Mytens - Van Dyck |
| 16 | Art in Spain - Velázquez to Murillo |
| 17 | Dutch Golden Age - Rembrandt to Vermeer |
| 18 | Victorian Age to Modern - Art from the 19th into the 20th Century |
| 19 | Guided visit to the National Gallery |
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| Course OverviewVisiting art museums and galleries is one of the most enjoyable activities in life, but it can be made even more rewarding by discovering some of the stories behind the great works of art, and the ideas that inspired artists in their studios.On this course we will explore some of the wide variety of Western European art works, from early Byzantine through to late Victorian art and Impressionism.Our tutor will encourage us to participate in discussions on the different varieties of art we will see, while guiding us gently towards greater understanding of the lives of different artists, their cultural backgrounds and their influence on later developments in art.The programme is broadly chronological, with forays into different geographical regions of Europe, and we will discover some of the key movements in art, the characteristics of different styles and information on specific artists, such as Botticelli, Leonardo da Vinci, Raphael, Michelangelo, and others.At the start of the course we will think about how to look at paintings and sculpture, and consider concepts such as composition and iconography, exploring the way saints and ancient Greek and Roman gods were depicted, as well as the clues artists give us to understanding their works through various forms of symbolism.Required Previous Experience (if any)NoneRequired Reading Material or Special Equipment Needed (if any)* None specified

Learning OutcomesAt the end of this course you should be able to1. Recognise and identify the stylistic qualities of a number of artistic styles and movements in the Western art tradition
2. Identify the names and key works of art by some of the most significant artists from the Western art tradition
3. Be able to think about and/or discuss art in relation to its formal qualities, symbolism and social context.

**Possible Further Study**Further courses on the after:hours programme might be useful to you.Additional informationThis course descriptor may be subject to change during the delivery of the course, depending on the specific direction and nature of the learner cohort, and is intended to be responsive to the group dynamics as they emerge during the delivery of the course. |