

# Explore spring 2014 programme overview

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Michael Ayton 'Two Problem Plays of Shakespeare'						
Fred Stevenson 'The Solar System' NAC Media Room						
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arate & Together:	r: short story	cycles' (not 19th	Feb)			
B&D Studios 'Life, the Universe and Everything'						
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Origins series on the theme of 'Transformation'						
ronwen Calvert 'M	Modern Repre	sentations of Ind	lia' (not 20th Fo	eb)		
Bernician Studies	es / Colm O'Bri	ien 'St Cuthbert'	alternate week			
Grady 'Exploring	the Victorian	ns through their o	own words'	Mike Great	batch 'History o Ouseburn'	f the Lower
	,			Practical Art Margaret Adams 'Tomb decoration in the old	'The Troubadours'	'Possession' Richard Moore
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Pamela Woof 27th Feb—see text pages

Philosophy course from 20th January to 17th February

For the Sake of Appearances: the Philosophy of Aesthetics

Lecturer: Ian Ground

Venue: Room tbc, 4th floor, Commercial Union House, Pilgrim Street, Newcastle upon Tyne

10.30 to 12.00

Philosophical aesthetics is now one of the most active areas in the wider discipline. This course will explore some of the issues that have been attracting attention.

Cinema and the Problem of the Narrator

Visual Art and the Problem of Ugliness

Literature and the Problem of Imaginative Resistance

Music and the Problem of Meaning

Together they will offer a challenging and fascinating into our aesthetic experience and the role of the imagination in our understanding of the arts.

Philosophy course from 24th February to 24th March

The Philosophy of Empathy

**Lecturer:** Holly Havens

Venue: Room tbc, 4th floor, Commercial Union House, Pilgrim Street, Newcastle upon Tyne

11.30 to 13.00

Holly Havens is a young postgraduate student, best introduced in her own words:

'I attained my B.A. in philosophy at Grand Valley State University (Michigan, USA). From there, I went on to attain my M.A. at Durham University. I am currently pursuing my Ph. D at Durham. My primary research interests lie in phenomenology, philosophy of psychiatry, aesthetics, ethics, philosophy of religion, and east/west comparative philosophy. My current research is mainly focused on my doctoral dissertation, which examines the concept of loneliness from a phenomenological perspective. Outside philosophy, I enjoy expressing myself in nearly all ways artistic, whether it be through music, theatre, dance, or other creative pursuits.'

### The Philosophy of Empathy

What is empathy? How can the idea of empathy be applied to our everyday lives? We will begin by first tracing the origins of the notion of empathy, highlighting some of the key philosophers who developed the concept. We will then go on to explore empathy through present literature. Themes include, but are not limited to:

Empathy and Morality: Does having empathy make me a better person?

Empathy and Mindreading: How can empathy help us know and understand the perspectives of others?

Empathy and the Non-Human: Is empathy a distinctively human phenomenon? Can animals or robots have empathy?

Art History and Design on the theme of Transformation from 20th January to 17th March

Open sessions

Venue: Room 6, 4th floor, Commercial Union House, Pilgrim Street, Newcastle upon Tyne

## 10.45 to 11.45

Date	Lecturer	Title
20 Jan	Peter Quinn	Joseph Crawhall III: water colour and modernity
27 Jan	Chris Daunt	The rise and fall of the wood engraving
03 Feb	Lesley Twomey	El Greco and the city of Toledo
10 Feb	Marie-Therese Mayne	Colour, Light and Shade: water colours through the ages
17 Feb	Peter Quinn	Louise Bourgeois: 'Art is a way of recognising oneself'
24 Feb	Mick Sharp	Going Underground I: Edward Johnson and his Underground Letters
03 Mar	Lesley Twomey	Esteban Murillo and doctrines of the Virgin Mary
10 Mar	John Millard	Victorian architecture and craftsmen and the new Diocese of Newcastle (1882)
17 Mar	Peter Quinn	Art, Genius and Beauty: the mythology of the artist, nature transformed

Art History and Design on the theme of Transformation from 20th January to 17th March

Open sessions

Venue: Room 6, 4th floor, Commercial Union House, Pilgrim Street, Newcastle upon Tyne

## 12.30 to 13.30

Date	Lecturer	Title
20 Jan	Peter Quinn	Impresses Quaint: Crawhall II and the woodcut
27 Jan	Chris Daunt	The art and craft of wood engraving
03 Feb	Paul Barlow	Modern art and the past in India and China: the future of art?
10 Feb	Marie-Therese Mayne	Metamorphosis: fascinating changes
17 Feb	Peter Quinn	Bruce Nauman: materials transformation
24 Feb	Mick Sharp	Going Underground II: Harry Beck and his Underground Map
03 Mar	Paul Barlow	The changing face of Jesus in art and film
10 Mar	John Millard	Picturesque touring in the North East: woodcarving from Alnwick to Tadcaster
17 Mar	Peter Quinn	Self-Portraits: staring into the mirror

### **Art History Course:**

Painting of Modern Life 2: Impressionist Art in late Nineteenth Century Europe, including Seurat, Van Gogh, Pissarro and Melville

Lecturer: Peter Quinn

Venue: Room 6, 4th floor, Commercial Union House, Pilgrim Street, Newcastle upon Tyne

14.00 to 15.30

Date Title

27 Jan Universal Exhibitions, Boulevards and Impressions

3 Feb Seurat

10 Feb Lust for Life: Van Gogh and the South

3 Mar Optics and Politics: Pissarro

10 Mar Scottish Art, Impressionism and Modern Life

### **History Course:**

The Celtic Arthur from 20th January to 24th March

Lecturer: Hermann Moisl

Venue: Room 6, 4th floor, Commercial Union House, Pilgrim Street, Newcastle upon Tyne

19.00 to 20.30

Hermann Moisl teaches Linguistics at Newcastle University, but is also a scholar of Old Irish and deeply versed in the culture and literature of the people he is bold enough to call 'the Celts' in defiance of current practice. He claims to relish the chance to give us a course on a subject he enjoys, and is making us a gift of 10 weeks on an always enthralling figure this season. We are delighted to welcome him.

Literature on the theme of Transformation from 21st January to 25th March

Open sessions

Venue: Room 6, 4th floor, Commercial Union House, Pilgrim Street, Newcastle upon Tyne

Key:

PRR Prior reading required.

PRD Prior reading desirable.

The web links given are suggestions only. There may be better links on the Internet if students search for them.

## 10.30 to 12.00

Date	Lecturer	Title
21 Jan	Bronwen Calvert	Alice Munro, Nobel Laureate: transforming the short story
28 Jan	Michael Ayton	Dark, pungent, gothic and subversive: Angela Carter's 'The Tiger's Bride' (from <i>The Bloody Chamber</i> ) [PRR]
04 Feb	Rachel Lister	Unknown modes of being: transformations in Romantic poetry from Wordsworth to Shelley
11 Feb	Kathleen Kenny	'Using Life as Art': Sylvia Plath and Raymond Carver, two exponents of the craft
18 Feb	Richard Moore	'Out of the Frying Pan': a look at the Wesker Trilogy - Chicken Soup with Barley, Roots and I'm Talking about Jerusalem
25 Feb	Pamela Woof	Further poetry of Seamus Heaney and the 'Troubles' [information on which poems are to be studied will be provided nearer the date]
04 Mar	Marie Addyman	Frankenstein: a story of family life [PRR students should read the 1819 version, not the 1830]
11 Mar	Miguel Ángel Gomes	On translating Beowulf: from Morris to Heaney and beyond
18 Mar	Martin Wheeler	'Fin de siècle, fin du globe': H. G. Wells' <i>The Time Machine</i> [ <b>PRD</b> ]  http:/www.bartleby.com/1000/
25 Mar	Bronwen Calvert	'A shot at my vision': transforming narrative in Virginia Woolf's The Waves

Literature on the theme of Transformation from 21st January to 25th March

Open sessions

Venue: Room 6, 4th floor, Commercial Union House, Pilgrim Street, Newcastle upon Tyne

### 12.30 to 13.30

Date	Lecturer	Title
21 Jan	Bronwen Calvert	Alice Munro's 'Dear Life' [PRR] <a hemclean.html"="" href="http://www.newyorker.com/reporting/2011/09/19/110919fa_fact_munro?currentPage=all_not_munro?currentPage=all_not_munro.currentPage=all&lt;/td&gt;&lt;/tr&gt;&lt;tr&gt;&lt;td&gt;28 Jan&lt;/td&gt;&lt;td&gt;Michael Ayton&lt;/td&gt;&lt;td&gt;Wallace Stevens' 'Sunday Morning': the most beautiful and mysterious philosophical poem ever written? [PRR]&lt;/td&gt;&lt;/tr&gt;&lt;tr&gt;&lt;td&gt;04 Feb&lt;/td&gt;&lt;td&gt;Rachel Lister&lt;/td&gt;&lt;td&gt;http://www.poemhunter.com/best-poems/wallace-stevens/sunday-morning/  'The Iceberg Principle': Hemingway's minimalist short stories [PRR]  'A Clean, Well-Lighted Place' &lt;a href=" http:="" www.mrbauld.com="">http://www.mrbauld.com/hemclean.html</a> 'Big Two-Hearted River, Parts I and II <a href="http://xroads.virginia.edu/~DRBR/hem_river.html">http://xroads.virginia.edu/~DRBR/hem_river.html</a> 'Cat in the Rain' - copies to be provided at the class.
11 Feb	Kathleen Kenny	'Using Life as Art': how we might go about transforming our own lives
18 Feb	Richard Moore	Atonement and after: a look at Jean Anouilh's Becket
25 Feb	Pamela Woof	John Clare: peasant and poet [information on which poems are to be studied will be provided nearer the date]
04 Mar	Marie Addyman	William Blake's 'Proverbs from Hell' (from <i>The Marriage of Heaven and Hell</i> ) [PRR] [http://www.poets.org/viewmedia.php/prmMID/19361]
11 Mar	Miguel Ángel Gomes	Transforming the literary landscape of the twentieth century: the Latin American boom
18 Mar	Martin Wheeler	Local heroes going global: regional crime fiction entering the world stage
25 Mar	Bronwen Calvert	Virginia Woolf's 'Kew Gardens' and 'Monday or Tuesday' [PRR] [http://www.bartleby.com/85/]

### Geography course

Where on Earth are We? 2

Lecturer: Mike Leddra

Venue: Room tbc 4th floor, Commercial Union House, Pilgrim Street, Newcastle upon Tyne

#### 15.00 to 16.30

#### **Date**

18 Feb Lecture

25 Feb Lecture

04 Mar Lecture

11 Mar Fieldwork

18 Mar No session

25 Mar Lecture

The second part of Mike's course on how maps help us interpret the world, and how they are created, will include a fieldwork day (location to be advised). Those of us who took part in the geological mapping day near Hadrian's Wall can testify to what fun it was (despite the hail) and the satisfaction, especially for those who had never tried anything like it, in creating a valid record from their own observations.

### **Musical Transformations**

**Tutor:** Mike Green

Venue: CUH Quiet area in Main Room, Floor 3

### 18.00 to 19.30

Date	Title
11 Feb	Johann Sebastian Bach: The Art of the Fugue
18 Feb	Antonio Salieri: From Maestro to Murderer
25 Feb	Ludwig van Beethoven: Transforming the Musical World
4 Mar	John Coolidge Adams: A Process of Transformation
11 Mar	Sir John Tavener: A Religious and Musical Conversion

A series of five sessions exploring the lives and works of important composers of the past 300 years. We will be looking at their impact on musical techniques and styles, and their place in music history.

History course from 21st January to 18th Feb

**Old China Hands** 

**Lecturer:** John Griffiths

Venue: Room 6, 4th floor, Commercial Union House, Pilgrim Street, Newcastle upon Tyne

### 19.00 to 20.30

Those who heard John's talk on the Boxer Rebellion will have had a foretaste of the men to be met in this course - by the sound of it, a thoroughly raffish bunch! Want to meet Putnam Weale, One-Arm Sutton, Two-Gun Cohen, and other colonial characters? Come along.

**Science course** from 22nd January to 19th February

Plants in Ancient Egypt

**Lecturer:** Gavin Hardy

Venue: Room tbc, 4th floor, Commercial Union House, Pilgrim Street, Newcastle upon Tyne

10.30 to 12.00

Gavin Hardy, joining us in the first week of term, is a Plant Biologist and in particular a Marine Biologist, who currently teaches on Edinburgh University's Lifelong Learning programme, at the Open University, and also teaches Marine Biology students at Newcastle University. His interest in plants also covers medical botany especially in the Ancient World, the Plant Hunters of the Himalayas, and other topics. As well as his course he is giving us a talk on 'Seaweeds' on the 12<sup>th</sup> February, and we can perhaps look forward to a course on Coastal Ecology in the summer.

Science course from 22nd January to 19th February

The Solar System

**Lecturer:** Fred Stephenson

Venue: \*\*\*Media Room, Newcastle Arts Centre \*\*\*

10.30 to 12.00

The title says it all I think, but don't forget that this course is in the NAC Media Room, to get the benefit of their excellent projection suite.

History course from 26th February to 26th March

Settlement Trade & Industry

**Lecturer:** Tony Barrow

Venue: Room tbc, 4th floor, Commercial Union House, Pilgrim Street, Newcastle upon Tyne

10.30 to 12.00

#### **Date Title**

26 Feb The Region and the Sea - an overview of the maritime history of the region

5 Mar The Lord Crewe Archive - sources for study of the Northumberland coast

12 Mar The Delaval Collection and its importance to the maritime history of the region.

19 Mar Sources for the Maritime history of the Tyne & Wear.

26 Mar Whitby whaling and The Scoresby Archive.

This course will deal with aspects of the history of the North-East Coast with particular attention to Archive Collections and other sources available to study aspects of North-East history related to the coast.

#### **Literature Course:**

Two "problem plays" of Shakespeare: The Merchant of Venice and Timon of Athens

**Tutor:** Michael Ayton

Venue: Room tbc, 4th floor, Commercial Union House, Pilgrim Street, Newcastle upon Tyne

#### 10.30 to 12.00

Date Title

29 Jan The Merchant of Venice

5 Feb The Merchant of Venice

12 Feb Timon of Athens

19 Feb Timon of Athens

The Merchant of Venice ends happily for everyone except Shylock. But who are we meant to see as the bad guy, if anyone, and is justice done, or insult simply added to injury? And what should we make of this curious thing, religion?

Why, in *Timon of Athens*, does Shakespeare create as his protagonist a bizarre misanthrope with a weird diet, sparring with a cynical and rather terrifying philosopher, Apemantus? In any case, who actually wrote this strange play, which Herman Melville considered one of Shakespeare's most profound? We'll try to find answers - or at least, to grapple with some further fascinating questions ...

Origins series on the theme of Transformation from 22nd January to 26th March

Open sessions

Venue: Room 6, 4th floor, Commercial Union House, Pilgrim Street, Newcastle upon Tyne

### 12.30 to 13.30

Date	Lecturer	Title
22 Jan	Bea Groves	Lead into Gold: Transmutation, Alchemy and Physics
29 Jan	Mike Leddra	Transforming Landscapes
05 Feb	Fred Stevenson	Copernican Revolutions
12 Feb	Gavin Hardy	Seaweeds
19 Feb	Gordon Beakes	Invisible worlds - the contribution electron-microscopy has made to biology
26 Feb	Gordon Moir	Astronomy discovers Photography
05 Mar	tbc	tbc
12 Mar	Tony Barrow	The Transformation of Newcastle
19 Mar	Bea Groves	The Science of Nuclear Fusion
26 Mar	Andy Lane	The Tangled Tree; a geologist's view of human evolution

#### **Literature Course:**

Separate and Together: Short Story Cycles of the Twentieth Century

**Tutor:** Rachel Lister

Venue: Room 6, 4th floor, Commercial Union House, Pilgrim Street, Newcastle upon Tyne

#### 14.00 to 15.30

Date	Title
22 Jan	Sherwood Anderson, Winesburg, Ohio
	Required reading before class for Anderson session: as many stories as possible
29 Jan	Alice Munro, The Beggar Maid (also published as Who Do You Think You Are)
5 Feb	Alice Munro, The Beggar Maid (also published as Who Do You Think You Are) contd  Required reading for Alice Munro sessions: 'Royal Beatings', 'The Beggar Maid', 'Mischief',  'Simon's Luck', and 'Who Do you Think You Are'
12 Feb	Tim O'Brien, The Things They Carried
26 Feb	Tim O'Brien, The Things They Carried contd  Required reading for O'Brien sessions: 'The Things They Carried', 'On The Rainy River',  'How To Tell A True War Story', 'Speaking of Courage', 'In The Field', 'The Ghost Story',  and 'The Lives of the Dead'.
5 Mar	AS Byatt, The Matisse Stories
12 Mar	AS Byatt, The Matisse Stories contd
	Required reading for Byatt sessions: All stories

This is a seminar-style course of 7 sessions and you are asked to make a firm commitment of your wish to attend by emailing <a href="mailto:weareexplore@gmail.com">weareexplore@gmail.com</a>. This is likely to be a very popular course so, if you find having expressed an interest that you aren't able

Origins series on the theme of Transformation from 23rd January to 27th March

Open sessions

Venue: Room 6, 4th floor, Commercial Union House, Pilgrim Street, Newcastle upon Tyne

## 10.30 to 12.00

Date	Lecturer	Title
23 Jan	Malcolm Grady	"I read the news today oh boy'how news was communicated in the Victorian age
30 Jan	Alan Beale	Facing the Gorgon
06 Feb	John Sadler	Border Frontier to Middle Shires, the transformation of the Marches under James I (VI)
13 Feb	Angus Graham	The Fields of Iaru: the ancient Egyptian garden of the Blessed Dead
20 Feb	Mike Greatbatch	Spital Tongues - from Des. Res. To Public Health Risk
27 Feb	John Griffiths	Railways and Politics in China
06 Mar	Patrick Norris	National Parks
13 Mar	Miguel Angel Gomes	From page to screen: 40 years of Beowulfian monsters on film
20 Mar	Ralf Russow	The Thirty Years War
27 Mar	tbc	tbc

Origins series on the theme of Transformation from 23rd January to 27th March

Open sessions

Venue: Room 6, 4th floor, Commercial Union House, Pilgrim Street, Newcastle upon Tyne

## 12.30 to 13.30

Date	Lecturer	Title
23 Jan	Colm O'Brien	Constantine's vision at the Milvian Bridge
30 Jan	Max Adams	The wrong sort of limes: James Lind, Captain Cook and scurvy
06 Feb	John Griffiths	To the cemetery gates: Necropolis and Suburbia
13 Feb	David Noble-Rollin	Winter Birds; strategies for survival
20 Feb	Sally Waite	Acquiring Antiquity: Greek and Cypriot Pottery in the Kent Collection
27 Feb	tbc	tbc
06 Mar	Alan Beale	'inextricabilis error', or, devious derivations
13 Mar	Miguel Angel Gomes	On the nature of the 'heroic' and the 'chivalrous': Tolkien's alliterative verse for the 21st C $\&$ the publication of The Fall of Arthur
20 Mar	Kate Sussams	Rejuvenating The Heart of the City
27 Mar	Kate Sussams	(At the Black Gate—further details will be made available about this event at a later date)
27 Mar	Malcolm Grady	How the Victorians saw themselves: the development of the photograph

## Weekday Literature Special (One-off Class):

**Tutor:** Pamela Woof

Venue: Room tbc, 4th floor, Commercial Union House, Pilgrim Street, Newcastle upon Tyne

10.30 to 13.30

Date Title

27 Feb Hamlet, the Prince and the Play: past and present

#### **Literature Course:**

**Modern Representations of India** 

**Tutor:** Bronwen Calvert

Venue: Room 6, 4th floor, Commercial Union House, Pilgrim Street, Newcastle upon Tyne

#### 14.00 to 15.30

Date	Title
30 Jan	Ruth Prawer Jhabvala, Heat and Dust
6 Feb	Arundhati Roy, The God of Small Things
13 Feb	Arundhati Roy, The God of Small Things contd
27 Feb	Rumer Godden, Black Narcissus
6 Mar	Rumer Godden, Black Narcissus contd
13 Mar	Anita Desai, Fire on the Mountain
20 Mar	Anita Desai, Fire on the Mountain contd

This is a seminar-style course of 7 sessions and you are asked to make a firm commitment of your wish to attend by emailing <a href="mailto:weareexplore@gmail.com">weareexplore@gmail.com</a>. This is likely to be a very popular course so, if you find having expressed an interest that you aren't able to attend, please let us know so we can assess numbers accurately.

History course fortnightly from 23rd January to 20th March

**Bernician Studies Group** 

Lecturer: Colm O'Brien and Max Adams

**Venue:** Room 6, 4th floor, Commercial Union House, Pilgrim Street, Newcastle upon Tyne

18.30 to 20.30

The BSG meets fortnightly under the guidance of Colm O'Brien and Max Adams 'to investigate and discuss the territory of Bernicia and its wider geographical and cultural connections'. It is unlike other courses in the Explore programme in that seasons do not follow a course, and it is participatory - members work under expert guidance but are not formally taught, and may be invited to lead sessions themselves when appropriate. Most sessions are a mix of presentation and discussion. People from outside Explore with particular experience and expertise often attend sessions to share their knowledge and join the discussion. Explore provides accommodation for meetings but incurs no tutorial or visiting lecturer costs. Explore members who think they would find this approach stimulating and who feel confident to contribute are invited to join the Group.

History course fortnightly from 30th January to 27th March

The Story of St Cuthbert

Lecturer: Colm O'Brien

Venue: Room 6, 4th floor, Commercial Union House, Pilgrim Street, Newcastle upon Tyne

19.00 to 20.30

The second part of this course continues to examine original sources to follow the fortunes and travels of the Community of St. Cuthbert in the centuries between the Viking destruction of Lindisfarne and the saint's enshrinement in Durham in 1104, and to see how Durham became the successor to Lindisfarne. The main text is Symeon of Durham's 'History of the Church of Durham'. The best text and translation of this is D Rollason (2000) 'Symeon of Durham' in the Oxford Medieval Texts series. This is expensive. There is an older (19th century ) translation by Stevenson published by Llanerch Press (www.llanerchpress.com): 'Simeon of Durham: a history of the church of Durham'. List price £12.00

## **Friday**

**History course** from 7th February to 7th March (NOTE REVISED DATE)

Exploring the Victorians through their own words

**Lecturer:** Malcolm Grady

Venue: Room 6, 4th floor, Commercial Union House, Pilgrim Street, Newcastle upon Tyne

10.30 to 12.30

We know how we see the Victorians, but how did they see themselves? Malcolm Grady will be using contemporary texts to see what it felt like to be at the cutting edge of 19<sup>th</sup> century progress.

**History course** from 14th to 28th March

History of the Lower Ouseburn

Lecturer: Mike Greatbatch

**Venue**: Room 6, 4th floor, Commercial Union House, Pilgrim Street, Newcastle upon Tyne

11.00 to 13.00

Mike is presenting these talks over 2 hours each time to allow for an interval to examine maps and other source materials. The plans is that these talks, which end the course programme for this season, will be followed at the beginning of the next by 3 walks, led by Mike, which will explore the places that are the subject of this course.

History:

Excavations at Tell Timai in association with NEAES

Tutor: NEAES

Saturday 25th Jan 10.00 to 12.00

Venue: Room 6, 4th floor, Commercial Union House, Pilgrim Street, Newcastle upon Tyne

Philosophy:

Thinking Fast & Slow: Dan Kahneman and the Mind

Tutor: Bea Groves

**Saturday 1st Feb** 10.00 to 13.00

Venue: Room 6, 4th floor, Commercial Union House, Pilgrim Street, Newcastle upon Tyne

Science:

Medieval Islamic Science

Tutor: Marie Addyman

**Saturday 8th Feb**, 10.00 to 13.00

Venue: Room 6, 4th floor, Commercial Union House, Pilgrim Street, Newcastle upon Tyne

**Practical Art Course:** 

Drawing outside the box: explore your creative potential through experimental drawing and mark-making I

**Tutor:** Margaret Adams

**Saturday 15th Feb** 10.30 to 13.00

**Venue:** Room 8, 4th floor, Commercial Union House, Pilgrim Street, Newcastle upon Tyne

10th January 2014 www.weareexplore.org.uk email: weareexplore@gmail.com

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Venue: Room 8, 4th floor, Commercial Union House, Pilgrim Street, Newcastle upon Tyne

History:

Dwarves & Dragons: Tolkien's Northern Roots

**Tutor**: Miguel Angel Gomes

Saturday 22nd February, 10.00 to 13.00

Venue: Room 6, 4th floor, Commercial Union House, Pilgrim Street, Newcastle upon Tyne

Literature:

**Transformation: different voices** 

**Tutor**: Kathleen Kenny

**Saturday 1st Mar** 10.00 to 13.00

Venue: Room 6, 4th floor, Commercial Union House, Pilgrim Street, Newcastle upon Tyne

Through a series of creative writing exercises looking at different tenses and viewpoints we will explore various means of giving our creativity free expression.

**Art History:** 

Darwin and art: visual art in the age of evolution

Tutor: Peter Quinn

Saturday 8th March, 10.00 to 13.00

Venue: Room 6, 4th floor, Commercial Union House, Pilgrim Street, Newcastle upon Tyne

**Practical Art Course:** 

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**Tutor:** Margaret Adams

**Saturday 15th March** 10.30 to 13.00

Venue: Room 8, 4th floor, Commercial Union House, Pilgrim Street, Newcastle upon Tyne

History:

Tomb decoration in the Old Kingdom in association with NEAES

Tutor: NEAES

Saturday 15th Mar 10.00 to 13.00

Venue: Room 6, 4th floor, Commercial Union House, Pilgrim Street, Newcastle upon Tyne

#### Literature:

Dazzling brilliance, exquisite subtlety: poetry and music of the troubadours and its influence

**Tutor**: Michael Ayton

**Saturday 22nd March** 10.00 to 13.00

Venue: Room 6, 4th floor, Commercial Union House, Pilgrim Street, Newcastle upon Tyne

Who were the troubadours, and how did the spark of the beautiful songs they created and performed between around 1100 and 1300 come to light the flame of subsequent European poetry? What really was the social and aesthetic phenomenon that used to be called 'courtly love'? We'll explore these questions by looking at and listening to a range of troubadour songs, considering the different strains of troubadour art (political, satirical, bawdy, devotional as well as amatory), the form and structure of the poems, and how these works might be performed today. Translations will be provided for all texts and no prior knowledge is necessary or assumed.

#### Literature:

Loves divided: a look at Antonia Byatt's Possession

**Tutor**: Richard Moore

**Saturday 29th March** 10.00 to 13.00

Venue: Room 6, 4th floor, Commercial Union House, Pilgrim Street, Newcastle upon Tyne