

# WEA Course Information Sheet 2016-17



<b>Course title:</b> Art History: A History of Colour in Modern Art		<b>Course ID:</b> C2418951
<b>Start date:</b> 27/04/2017	<b>End date:</b> 15/06/2017	<b>Day(s)/time(s):</b> Thu 14:00
<b>Number of sessions:</b> 7	<b>Hours per session:</b> 2	<b>Tutor:</b> Caroline Levisse
<b>Additional hours:</b>	<b>Notes:</b> At the crossroad of intuition and science, colour played an essential role in the development of modern painting. From Turner and Monet to B. Riley and O. Eliasson, we will study what colour is, how it works, and how it has been used by artists to achieve specific effects.	
<b>Awarding body (if any):</b> <b>Title of qualification to be gained:</b>		<b>Level:</b> Level 2
<b>Fee:</b> £57.40 or <b>Free</b> if you are in receipt of an income related benefit (only SFA funded) <b>Accreditation Fee</b> (if applicable):		
<b>Venue:</b> Wesley Hall, High Barnet Methodist Church, 9 Stapylton Road, Barnet, Hertfordshire, EN5 4JJ		
<b>Theme(s):</b> The WEA has four themes it uses for planning its provision. <b>Employability</b> – helping students to get a job or to make progress in their employment <b>Health and Wellbeing</b> – making a positive contribution to their own or others health and wellbeing <b>Community Engagement</b> – encouraging students to be positively involved in their communities <b>Culture</b> – learning about diverse cultures, identities and environments  The Theme(s) used in planning your course is/ are: 1. <b>Culture Education</b> 2.		

## Course aim

This course looks at the way colour has been considered and used by artists, with a special focus on modern art.

## Who is the course for?

## Course description

At the crossroad of intuition and science, colour has played an essential role in the development of modern painting. We will study what colour is, how it works, and how it has been used by artists to achieve specific effects.

## What topics will this course cover and how will they relate to the theme(s) for this course?

We will start by addressing the cultural dimension of colour perception. We will see how colour has long been devalued and feared, particularly in Western classical thought (“chromophobia”, D. Batchelor). As it will become clear, many modern and contemporary artists have, on the other hand, considered colour as a positive value and have made it a focus of their art. What is more, colour played a crucial role in the development of modern art. Turner, Whistler, Monet, van Gogh, Kandinsky, Sonia Delaunay, Yves Klein, Gerhard Richter, Bridget Riley, and Olafur Eliasson are some of the artists that will be studied. Our investigations will mostly concern painting, although we

will sometimes look at other visual arts (sculpture, design, and installation art), and literature. Following a session on pigments and a brief reminder on optics, we will engage in an in-depth exploration of colour theory and learn about colour interactions through the analysis of particular works of art. The expressive power of colour will be considered, i.e. the way chromatic compositions might affect viewers.

### **What will it be like?**

WEA classes are friendly and supportive. You will be encouraged to work together with your fellow students and tutor. You will be asked to share your ideas and views in the class and work with the group to give and accept feedback in a supportive environment. The WEA tutor will use a range of different teaching and learning methods and encourage you to be actively involved in your learning. You may be asked to undertake work to support your course outside of your class.

### **By the end of the course I should be able to:**

1. Use technical vocabulary (such as complementary colours, saturation, etc.)
2. Describe the basic principles of colour theory
3. Describe and analyse the chromatic aspects of a work of art
4. Discuss colour's place in culture and its role in the development of modern painting
5. Follow-up individual interest through further research

### **How will I know I'm making progress?**

During each session, a large place will be made for discussions and questions. Students' interests will be integrated through dialogue and feedback. Your learning record will ask you to consider how far you feel you have progressed.

### **What else do I need to know, do or bring?**

We will do a class visit at the National Gallery

### **Reading and information sources**

A list with reading suggestions will be provided and discussed during the first session.

### **What could the course lead to?**

Skills and knowledge gained during this course can be used for other courses on art and cultural studies in general.

You can read about your entitlements and responsibilities as a WEA student in our leaflet, Student Handbook here <http://www.wea.org.uk/learn-wea/student-support> This includes information on fees, learning support and financial support. As part of your first course you accept a learning agreement (the tear-off portion of your enrolment form). This applies to all courses you take in this academic year.

You can enrol online for some courses <http://www.wea.org.uk/learn-wea/course-search> or contact: London Region, Unit 57, Riverside Estate, Sir Thomas Longley Road, Rochester, Kent, ME2 4DP  
Tel: 0300 303 3464 Email: [courseenquiries@wea.org.uk](mailto:courseenquiries@wea.org.uk)



