

WEA Course information sheet 2020-21

Course title: Heart of Darkness - Seminar		Course ID: C3746269
Start date: 23/01/2021	End date: 23/01/2021	Day(s)/time(s): Sat 10:30
Number of sessions: 1	Hours per session: 2	Tutor Sam Waterman
Additional hours:	Online Learning Hours: 0	
Specific funder/partner requirements:		
Awarding body (if any):		Level: Level 2
Title of qualification to be gained:		
Fee: £6.40 or Free if you are in receipt of an income related benefit (only SFA funded) Accreditation Fee (if applicable):		
Venue: Online Learning, Online, ZZ99 9ZZ		
<p>Theme(s): The WEA has four themes it uses for planning its provision.</p> <p>Employability – helping students to get a job or to make progress in their employment</p> <p>Health and Wellbeing – making a positive contribution to their own or others health and wellbeing</p> <p>Community Engagement – encouraging students to be positively involved in their communities</p> <p>Culture – learning about diverse cultures, identities and environments</p> <p>The Theme(s) used in planning your course is/ are:</p> <p>1. Culture Education 2.</p>		

<p>Course Aim</p> <p>To provide an overview of Joseph Conrad's novel, Heart of Darkness, as well as its historical contexts and its contemporary adaptations.</p>
<p>Course Description</p> <p>Heart of Darkness is one of the most infamous texts written about the history of the British empire. It has spawned numerous adaptations and sparked multiple arguments about literature's role in perpetuating or criticising racism and imperialism. In this short course we'll take a closer look at Conrad's novella to learn what all the controversy is about, and why it continues to be an important touchstone for anyone thinking about race, identity and politics today. Together, we'll read key passages from the text and relate them to wider themes from the eugenics movement to feminism, all the while keeping our eye on the unsettling details of Conrad's story and his somewhat unique style. We'll conclude by reflecting on current debates about how we should collectively remember the major cultural artefacts of the imperial period of Britain's history, from novels and poems to statues and buildings, while neither damning nor glorifying them.</p>
<p>Do I need any particular skills or experience?</p>
<p>What will I achieve?</p> <p>By the end of the course I will be able to:</p> <p>1. Understand the characters, plot and style of Heart of Darkness.</p>

2. Discuss some of the major historical contexts addressed in the novel.
3. Get a sense of the critical debates and controversies that have swelled around its reception.
4. Compare the novel with its contemporary adaptations and think about how the story has been repurposed over time.
5. Begin to think about the novel in relation to wider questions about how we relate to the history of the British empire today.

What teaching methods will be used and will there be work outside of the class?

- The WEA's digital learning platform, Canvas will be used to provide resources or to support lessons, enable assessment, provide learner feedback and for other activities for individuals away from the course. If you want to understand more about our digital learning platform please visit: <http://bit.ly/WEAonline>
- The WEA tutor will use a range of different teaching and learning methods and encourage you and the group to be actively involved in your learning

What kind of feedback can I expect from the tutor?

- You will be able to keep a record of your progress and achievement using photos, audio, text or documents uploaded into the WEA's digital learning platform, WEA Canvas.
- A range of informal activities will be used by the tutor to see what you are learning which may include quizzes, question and answer, small projects and discussion
- You will have opportunities to discuss your progress with your tutor

What else do I need to know? Is there anything I need to bring?

- What you need: You will need an internet connection, speakers, a microphone and a webcam so that you can use our video learning platform, Zoom. If you'd like to understand more Zoom please visit: <http://bit.ly/ZoomSpec>
- You will need a personal email address to join the WEA's digital learning platform, Canvas so that you can receive resources, record your progress and achievement and to work with others and share ideas. If you want to understand more about our digital learning platform please visit: <http://bit.ly/WEAonline>
- If you do purchase a copy of the novel then feel free to bring it to the class.

Pre-course work, reading and information sources

- You will have access to course resources and links to wider learning through the WEA's digital learning platform, Canvas: <http://bit.ly/WEAonline>
- No pre reading is required but research on the subject on the internet or in the library may be helpful

Possible next steps after this course (including career opportunities if appropriate)

- Progress to another WEA course
- Progress to a course with another provider
- Become involved with the WEA in a range of voluntary work and other activities including campaigning as a WEA member
- Become involved as a volunteer for a WEA partner or another organisation
- You could progress to Higher Education courses. Follow link to the PEARL website for information <http://pearl.open.ac.uk/>
- Access the WEA What Next? booklet here <http://www.wea.org.uk/learn-wea/what-can-i-do-next>

Learning with the WEA

WEA courses increasingly make use of the rich variety of educational tools and material available on the internet and from digital devices. The WEA's digital learning platform, Canvas will play an increasing role in all WEA courses to provide resources or support, or to conduct lessons, enable assessment, provide learner feedback and for other activities for individuals away from the course. It is helpful, although not essential if you have access to a computer or smartphone to support your course.

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 course you accept our Learning Agreement and Privacy Notice. Full details of the Learning Agreement and privacy notice can be found on our website at <http://www.wea.org.uk/policies>. This applies to all courses you take in this academic year.

You can enrol online for most courses <http://www.wea.org.uk/learn-wea/course-search> or contact: WEA Support Services, Suite 10B Joseph's Well, Hanover Way, Leeds, West Yorkshire, LS3 1AB Tel: 0300 303 3464 Email: courseenquiries@wea.org.uk



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