

Stockport College Summer School application forms will not be available until the end of March. The courses will be held from the 9th July to 13th July inclusive.

Summer School 2012 – Course Ideas

Forensic Science

From Crime Scene to Court

An all day activity, involving an outdoor crime scene; the skeletonised remains of our victim; cartridge casings; blood; footwear marks and other evidence items that will be analysed later during the session. Once all the evidence has been collected from the crime scene by the group they will be given instructions as to how to analyse the different types of evidence and carry out the analysis. They can then present their findings and say who they think 'dunnit'! We will even analyse the skeletal remains!

Note: The tutor can accommodate a maximum of 20 people on the course. If demand is high then it may be possible to add an additional course during the Summer School week.

Wonders of the Universe

Cosmology is the scientific study of the large scale properties of the universe as a whole. It endeavours to use the scientific method to understand the origin, evolution and ultimate fate of the entire Universe. Like any field of science, cosmology involves the formation of theories or hypotheses about the universe which make specific predictions for phenomena that can be tested with observations. Depending on the outcome of the observations, the theories will need to be abandoned, revised or extended to accommodate the data. The prevailing theory about the origin and evolution of our Universe is the so-called Big Bang theory.

We are exploring the possibility of including a visit to Jodrell Bank during the session. There may be a small additional cost for this.

Dining Solo

Cooking for yourself? You needn't compromise. After all you have the advantage of exploring flavors and creating whatever dishes you choose. Creating a healthy dish for one can be just as easy as making one for two or four. Simple planning will help you figure out the right portions, create healthier meals and reduce waste.

Pain and Pleasure!

Are you aiming to get fit and keep healthy? Have you ever considered joining a gym but been worried about how to operate the equipment or whether it was right for you? If so, then come along to the College Fitness Suite where a trained instructor will guide you round the equipment. The session will also include some low-resistant exercises to suit your needs and you will work out a personal fitness plan.

That's the morning taken care of so what about the 'pleasure'? Well in the afternoon you will attend a reflexology or Swedish body massage session. Our beauty therapist will teach you the basics of these techniques and you can practice on members of the group.

Note: If those who attend this session are keen to continue their fitness plan, we can explore the possibility of putting on a weekly exercise class session exclusively for U3A members and over 60's.

You Can Do it DIY!

Have you ever found yourself parting with a large sum of money for a fairly simple repair job in the home, that perhaps, with the right knowledge, you could have done yourself? If so, this may be just what you are looking for. During the day the course will aim to demonstrate a range of simple DIY tasks that occur around the home, with an opportunity to have a go yourself.

Note: If your members are interested in this session, then it would be useful to know what sort of tasks they would like to cover, as we will need to devise a plan of what we can realistically and practically cover during the five hours available.

Flash Fiction

Flash fiction is a style of fictional literature or fiction of extreme brevity. There is no widely accepted definition of the length of the category. Some experts think you should limit flash fiction pieces to 300 words. Others are more generous, raising the word cap to 1000. Since there is no true standard, any story between 300-1000 words is generally accepted as flash fiction. Some writers enjoy a challenge in writing stories with an exact word count, say 100 or 750 words.

Flash Fiction is a popular writing medium and is coveted by amateurs and professionals alike. It is popular because often themes or photos are used to trigger an imaginative response and this can help the writer. Flash fiction whilst being great fun, is not necessarily easier to write because it has a reduced word count.

This course helps the writer to write instinctively and intuitively.

Other Courses

We may be able to offer an art-based course and a performing arts-based course, but have been unable to finalise this at the time of writing. Please can you therefore ask generally if any of your members are likely to be interested in this subject area. Any ideas would also be gratefully received.

Lecture Workshops by Allan Stevenson

Allan is available to deliver one of the three sessions shown below.

- (a) **Coppers, Bobbies, Peelers and Tything-men: who exactly are the police? A Political History of the Police in England and Wales.**

How and why did the English (and Welsh) police develop quite differently from other nations? In this session we will explore the development of the police in England and Wales from Saxon tithing-men to the present day. The session will demonstrate how social and political forces led to a distinctive policing landscape of borough and county forces in nineteenth century England and increasing centralisation in the twentieth century. We will investigate the claims that the English and Welsh police are non-political, police by “consent” and are not subject to political control.

(b) Nation Building: Post-Roman Britain and the early origins of England, Wales and Scotland

A study of the diocese Britannica; the development of independent British kingdoms and the interaction and eventual conquest by the Germanic peoples, the Irish, Scots and the Picts.

(c) Anglo-Saxon England and the Norsemen

An exploration of Anglo-Saxon England; its development from independent earldoms; the social, religious, political and economic landscape; the conquest and settlement by Danish and Scandinavian peoples; and the events, which led to the Norman conquest in 1066.

Note: The lecture about the Police is already prepared and would be Allan’s preferred option. Post-Roman Britain and Anglo-Saxon England are both subjects that he would need to research and prepare. He is concerned that if a decision is not made until the end of February at our next Committee meeting, it does not leave him much time to prepare properly. Therefore, if you are able to let me know prior to our meeting, what your members would prefer, I can let Allan know accordingly and give him a few extra weeks of preparation time.