

CPD Events for Teachers 2008-9

We plan a series of Saturday meetings in 2008-9, aimed at the subject and classroom needs of teachers of secondary English. Sessions will be held on the University of Glasgow campus, taught by staff from the Faculties of Arts and Education and guest speakers. Courses will have a similar format and length, beginning with coffee at 10 a.m. and finishing around 3.00 p.m. A sandwich lunch will be provided. A full programme with short texts and/or suggestions for reading and other preparation will be issued a few weeks in advance of each session, and participants will be issued with certificates of attendance.

A typical programme is:

10.00 coffee
10.15-11.00 Plenary presentation
11.00-11.15 Questions/Discussion
11.15-11.30 Break
11.30-12.15 Plenary presentation
12.15-12.30 Questions/Discussion
12.30-1.15 Lunch
1.15-2.00 Plenary presentation
2.00-2.45 Group discussions; classroom applications
2.45-3.00 Plenary session; group reports.

The cost per day is £75. Invoices are sent out after the event. There is no cancellation fee if people subsequently let us know that they cannot attend or are prevented by unforeseen circumstances from doing so. Substitution of a colleague is acceptable. Each day is free-standing, and participants may attend as many or as few days as they wish. A booking form is enclosed and may be photocopied if more than one person wishes to book. It is also available on our website. Updates of information will also be posted there and on the GTC website.

All bookings are acknowledged by a letter to the participant at the school address – if you do not hear within a couple of weeks, please check with Helen Lloyd at the address below that your booking has been received.

For further information, contact:
Dr Helen Lloyd
Department of English Language
University of Glasgow
Glasgow G12 8QQ

Phone: 0141 330 6340 (general office)
Fax: 0141 330 3531
Email: cpd@englang.arts.gla.ac.uk

Bookings are accepted by post, fax or email but NOT, we regret, by phone.

Saturday 13th September 2008

American Short Stories

Prof Andrew Hook and Ms Valerie Thornton

From the early nineteenth century the short story has been something of an American speciality. This course will consider the development of the form from Hawthorne and Melville through to such twentieth century modernists as Hemingway, Fitzgerald, and Faulkner.

Saturday 20th September 2008

Approaching Women's Writing

Dr Bryony Randall and Dr Kirstie Blair

This workshop will explore texts by women authors from Jane Austen to Carol Ann Duffy, introducing recent critical and theoretical approaches to women's writing. We will be considering how twentieth and twenty-first century authors might be contextualized within a broader tradition of women writers stretching from the eighteenth century onwards. The first of three sessions will concentrate on Jane Austen; the next session will turn to Victorian women writers, analysing extracts from *Jane Eyre* and Elizabeth Barrett Browning; and the final session will focus on twentieth-century women's writing, covering Virginia Woolf, Angela Carter and Carol Ann Duffy. Each session will also consider how the ideas we explore can be best conveyed in the classroom through group discussion, structured activities and the use of resources such as websites or film and television productions.

Saturday 25th October 08

Suitable Texts for Personal Studies

Professor Douglas Gifford and Ms Maureen Farrell

This CPD day will be different from our usual format, in that, while having brief presentations on its major issues, substantial time will be given over to discussion and the sharing of ideas regarding the choice, nature and suitability of personal reading. Some of these issues will be controversial. The programme will be structured around the following issues:

- Do we think there are limits to choices in terms of content or style?
- Should we permit/encourage alternative forms such as graphic novels, illustrated versions, multi-media texts?
- How much responsibility for choice should lie with the student/teacher?
- How far should encouragement be given to widen the range of texts?

There will be discussion and suggestion as to under-exploited areas of writing, and guidance as the critical information helpful to choices.

Saturday 8 November 08

Shakespeare

Ms Grace Gilbert, Dr Rob Maslen and Professor Jeremy Smith

The morning will be spent on *Othello*, and the afternoon on *The Tempest*. In both cases, the central issues and problems of the play will be examined in as much depth as time allows, with special emphasis on communicating the essentials of the drama to pupils at secondary level.

There will be some suggestions for classroom use of audio-visual materials, for instance in understanding the varied ways in which complex texts may be interpreted. We will also be looking at the linguistic context within which Shakespeare wrote, and how knowledge of Early Modern English helps our understanding of his plays.

Saturday 22 November 08

Basic Grammar

Professor Christian Kay and Professor John Corbett

Participants at the Basic Grammar course last session thought that it would be a good idea to meet again and look at further grammatical issues. However, you are welcome to come along even if you didn't attend that course. We plan to look in more detail at higher level units like clauses, sentences, and elements of discourse structure. We will also look at some of the more challenging features of the verb phrase such as tense and aspect, and at ways in which pupils can be helped to identify and describe significant features in texts.

Saturday 7 February 2009

Burns Today

Dr Gerry Carruthers, Dr Rhona Brown and Dr Kirsteen McCue

This course will examine Robert Burns in his cultural, political, religious, national and international contexts. We will consider Burns the national icon and of international reputation. Particular readings will be offered of Burns's poetry on Scottish religion, of what is arguably his masterpiece, 'Tam o' Shanter', and of his practices as a song-writer. All teachers on the course will be associated with the Centre for Robert Burns Studies in the Department of Scottish Literature at the University of Glasgow.

Saturday 28 February 2009

Irish Literature / Irish History

Mr Paddy Lyons, Dr Matt McGuire, Dr Katie Gough and Dr John Coyle

Does literature change how we think about history? Is history helpful when reading and thinking about literature? Irish writing has often been concerned with reappropriating and rewriting history, and at times with eluding the snares of history. Irish history has meanwhile provided Ireland's writers with change and conflict for the imagination to process.

This course will provide an opportunity to take some case-studies – some familiar texts and some that are less familiar – to consider how these issues can feed productively into our class-room practices. We hope to consider passages from novels, short stories and plays, as well as poetry, and to examine recent writing as well as writing from the more distant past.

Saturday 14 March 2009

The Fiction of Neil Gunn and Lewis Grassic Gibbon

Professor Douglas Gifford and Professor Alan Riach

The day will be given over to detailed discussion and comparison of these two major Scottish novelists. In each case introductions will trace growth and development of their fiction with special emphasis on their major novels. In the case of Gunn, *Highland River*, *The Silver Darlings*, and *The Green Isle of the Great Deep* will feature most prominently; in the case of Gibbon, *A Scots Quair* and the short stories 'Clay', 'Smeddum', and 'Greenenden'. (There will be a film showing of the short stories, and, time permitting, excerpts from the film of Gunn's *Bloodhunt*.) It would be useful if participants could read as many of these texts as possible beforehand.

Saturday 25th April 2009

Creative Writing

Professor Michael Schmidt, Ms Val Thornton, Ms Zoe Strachan and Mr Kei Miller

Participants will consider how to read specific short stories and poems creatively, and how to put this kind of reading to classroom use, to catalyse creative reading and writing. There will be an opportunity for participants to develop their own creative skills if they wish, working with established practitioners of poetry and prose.

Saturday 16 May 2009

Exploring English Language Online

Dr Wendy Anderson and Professor John Corbett

This session will take place mainly in the STELLA computing lab, 6 University Gardens. In the first session, participants will be introduced to a range of web and electronic resources for language study. Hands-on sessions will then focus on exploring freely-available online language resources such as corpora and thesauruses, including the British National Corpus, the Corpus of American English, the Scottish Corpus of Texts & Speech, and the Historical Thesaurus of English. Both hands-on sessions and discussion sessions will consider how such resources can be used in the curriculum in the study of topics in language and linguistics such as pronunciation, grammar, discourse, and the relationship between language and society. While a basic familiarity with computers is assumed, no particular knowledge is required.