

Insight into English and Related Disciplines

22 June 2022

Venue: Simon Building, University of Manchester, Oxford Road Campus
M13 9PL¹

MANCHESTER
1824

The University of Manchester

Time	Session	Led by	Location
9:30- 9:45	Welcome and Registration	Sonja Bernhard and Ambassadors	Simon Theatre B
9:45 -10:00	Introduction, Health and Safety	Sonja Bernhard	Simon Theatre B
10:00-10:40	Overview of English Literature Degrees	Dr Alan Rawes	Simon Theatre B
	Overview of English Language & Linguistics Degrees	Dr Wendell Kimper	Simon Theatre D
10:40 - 10:50	Comfort break	Sonja Bernhard	
10:50-11:50	Broaden your perspective – English related degrees at Manchester		Simon Theatre B
	American Studies (10:50-11)	Professor Ian Scott	
	Art History (11-11:10)	Dr Darin Stine	
	Liberal Arts (11:10 -11:20)	Dr Scott Midson	
	Film Studies (11:20-11:30)	Dr David Butler	
	Drama (11:30 – 11:40)	Dr Rachel Clements	
	Q&A with presenters		
11:50- 12:00	Workshop Sign Up		Simon Theatre B
12:00-12:45	Lunch break (lunch not provided) [Travel bursary reimbursement: Simon Theatre B]		
12:45 -1:00	Sign-in and move to workshop		Simon Theatre B
1:00-1:40pm	Workshop Session 1: (find full description of workshop content on next page) Choose a taster workshop to further explore one of the subjects from the range of disciplines you encountered in the morning:		
	Paul Knowles	English Lit: Ecocriticism in English Literature	Simon 1.34
	Alina McLellan	English Lang / Linguistics: CYA IN COURT: An introduction to Forensic Linguistics	Simon 2.39
	Lauren Ellis-Stretch	Drama/Creative Writing: Playwriting workshop	Simon 2.61
	Dr Scott Midson	Liberal Arts: The Chatbot will see you now: Communication with Computers	Simon 4.04
	Dr Darin Stine	Art History: Investigating Imagery: An Introduction to Art History	Simon 4.08
1:40- 1:50pm	Move to new workshop		
1:50- 2:30pm	Workshop Session 2: (find full description of workshop content on next page)		
	Paul Knowles	English Lit: Ecocriticism in English Literature	Simon 1.34
	Alina McLellan	English Lang / Linguistics: CYA IN COURT: An introduction to Forensic Linguistics	Simon 2.39
	Thomas Grocott	Film: The Anthropocene Unconscious: Considering Cinema and Climate Crisis	Simon 2.60
	Sam Thoburn	American Studies: The Trial of Ossian Sweet	Simon 4.05
2:30- 2:40pm	Move to Q&A and wrap up session		
2:40- 3:00pm	Q&A Session with English-related Students	Sonja Bernhard and Ambassadors	Simon Theatre B
3:00- 3:15pm	Evaluation and Event Close		
3:15- 4:00pm	Optional Campus Tour	Ambassadors	

¹ The Simon Building is number 59 on [the campus map](#)

Descriptions of the workshops:

English Lit: Ecocriticism in English Literature

In this workshop, you will become familiar with Ecocritical theory and how it helps us to understand our place in world and our relationships to the nonhuman world. You will work in groups to consider Sara Teasdale's 'There Will Come Soft Rains' and how it can be read as one of the first examples of environmental poetry. The poem is important as it positions the nonhuman world as more important than the human world. This exploration of Teasdale poetry will lead us to consider how positioning the nonhuman world as equally as important as the human world is a key contemporary environmental message.

English Lang / Linguistics: CYA IN COURT: An introduction to Forensic Linguistics

This workshop is designed to introduce students to the discipline of Linguistics via the subdiscipline of Forensic Linguistics: how linguistic knowledge can be used to help solve criminal cases. It does not assume any prior knowledge about Linguistics, though concepts might be related to those studied in English Language at school. Students will step into the shoes of a Forensic Linguist who was asked to testify in court on a real-life murder trial from 2008.

Trigger warning: The workshop uses as its case study an actual murder case from 2005 and therefore includes potentially distressing material about violence against women

Drama/Creative Writing: Playwriting workshop

Liberal Arts: The Chatbot will see you now: Communication with Computers

Why do we talk to machines? What does it mean when they talk back to us? What are the limitations and concerns about communication with computers?

In this session, we'll touch on some of the key principles and critiques of human-computer interaction by focusing on the history of chatbots and their use in a range of contexts, including therapy.

Art History: Investigating Imagery: An Introduction to Art History

From the paintings and sculptures seen in museums to the advertisements seen on television, in magazines, and on billboards, we encounter art on a daily basis. As art historians we study images both old and new in order to learn about the past and better understand the society in which we live. This workshop offers an introduction to Art History and Visual Studies, provides students with an opportunity to test their investigative abilities, and reflects on how the artworks we study are 'used' today.

Film: The Anthropocene Unconscious: Considering Cinema and Climate Crisis

In *The Anthropocene Unconscious*, Mark Bould asserts that cinema propagandises 'our separation from the world.' Similarly, Jennifer Fay states that cinema has always had 'an attraction to artificial worlds,' preparing us for a climate that will 'defy all prediction.' This workshop works through these ideas, considering how film aesthetics teach us to live on a hostile planet. We will also begin to think about how cinema's worlds are being used by indigenous communities to render the 'native slipstream' of the Anthropocene as an apocalypse that arrived with colonialism.

American Studies: The Trial of Ossian Sweet

September 1925, Detroit, MI: Fuelled by the First World War and the Great Migration, the population of the automobile city is booming in alien ways, and cracks are beginning to show. The KKK has infiltrated city politics. All summer, white vigilantes have enforced a strict colour line around the overcrowded slum known as Black Bottom. The latest to test segregation is Ossian Sweet, a Black doctor lured north from Florida, who has confronted the mob in a deadly faceoff. Sweet is on trial for murder. The shape of the city is at stake.