EVENING CLASSES
at Imperial College London

Uncover a new you!

daytime and evening classes for adult learners

Centre for Languages, Culture and Communication

www.imperial.ac.uk/clcc
“Taking this evening class was one of the best decisions I've ever made.”

Angela Hou*

*Angela studied on our 'Understanding Modern Art' evening class in 2019
Every year around 1,400 adult education students, of all ages and from all walks of life join us to learn a language, or develop their skills in art, photography or creative writing, or to discover fascinating ideas in history, science and philosophy.

Our adult education evening and daytime classes are open to all, so you do not need any previous experience or qualifications in a subject to join in, and it’s a great way to meet people and make new friends.

And perhaps most important of all, because this is Imperial College you will find our tutors are friendly and welcoming, and real experts in their specialist subjects.
Art - Drawing for Beginners (Evening)
Mondays or Tuesdays - October to December - 18:00 to 20:00 South Kensington
This course is also due to run again from January to March
Tutor: Sue Sluglett   Fees from £95 to £178 (9 weeks)

On this course you will be introduced to a variety of drawing techniques and materials. This will include drawing from objects and the imagination, and use of pencil, charcoal, ink and paint.

Art - Drawing and Painting from Nature (Evening - West Norwood)
Thursdays - October to December - 18:30 to 20:00 West Norwood
This course is also due to run again from January to March
Tutor: Jo Fisher Roberts   Fees from £105 to £200 (10 weeks)
In association with the South London Botanical Institute

On this course you will be invited to try your hand at drawing and painting from natural objects set up by your tutor, and encouraged to experiment with a range of approaches, from accurate studies through to more expressive forms of art.

Art in London Galleries (Daytime)
Wednesdays - October to December - 11:00 to 12.00 Various locations around London
Or Fridays - October to December - 11:00 to 12.00 Various locations around London
This course is also due to run again from January to March
Tutor: Michael Paraskos   Fees from £52 to £100 (10 weeks)

This daytime course is designed for those who want to join a friendly community of art lovers on trips to see some of London’s most interesting (and sometimes challenging!) art exhibitions. The class is very informal and on our weekly trips to various art galleries and museums across London we will be encouraged to view the works of art on display in a considered and active way, and share our opinions with others in the group.
Connecting Art, Design and Science (Evening)
Tuesdays - October to December - 18:00 to 20:00 South Kensington
Tutor: Gus Subero  Fees from £95 to £178 (9 weeks)

This course considers historical and contemporary cross-disciplinary interactions between science, art and design. Its focus is on the productive relationship between these practices in their endeavours to understand and represent the world. We will reflect on the ways in which scientists have relied on artists to help shape and define their observation and image-making practices, and question some of the assumptions about perception and vision that underpin how images are made and used in science.

Creative Writing (Evening)
Mondays - October to March - 18:00 to 20:00 South Kensington
Tutor: Ronnie McGrath  Fees from £210 to £395 (20 weeks)

On this practical writing course we will explore how stories can be told in original and creative ways through writing. In doing so we will reflect on the fact that the fast-changing nature of our world has had an impact on the way people write, read and access different stories. This has led to a broadening of what we mean by creative writing, but also an increased demand for new and exciting ways to tell stories.

Creative Writing (Daytime)
Mondays - October to March - 13:00 to 13:50 South Kensington
Tutor: Ronnie McGrath  Fees from £105 to £200 (20 weeks)

On this practical writing course we will explore how stories can be told in original and creative ways through writing. In doing so we will reflect on the fact that the fast-changing nature of our world has had an impact on the way people write, read and access different stories. This has led to a broadening of what we mean by creative writing, but also an increased demand for new and exciting ways to tell stories.
Creative Writing (Daytime - West Norwood)
Mondays - October to December - 12:00 to 14:00 West Norwood
This course is also due to run again from January to March
Tutor: Claire Griffiths  Fees from £105 to £200 (10 weeks)

On this course we will explore how stories can be told in original and creative ways through writing. Led by novelist and short story writer Claire Griffiths, we will think about different types of writing and different audiences, and look for the best way to decide how our own stories and experiences can be translated from our thoughts and feelings into appropriate words.

Creative Writing: The Fine Art of Creative Writing (Evening)
Tuesdays - October to March - 18:30 to 20:30 South Kensington
Tutors: Ronnie McGrath, Michael Paraskos, Richard Barnes
Fees from £210 to £395 (20 weeks)

On this practical writing course we will explore creativity through an engagement with words that moves well beyond seeing them being simple signifiers. We will play games with words to detach them from standard meanings, think about words with no meaning, experiment with unexpected juxtapositions of words, and look at the relationship between words, identity, location and description. We will also look at words and books as objects, and explore how the process of making the objects that carry words can change and enhance the meaning of the words we use.

Film Studies: Introduction to Film (Evening)
Thursdays - October to March - 18:00 to 20:00 South Kensington
Tutor: Eleonora Sammartino  Fees from £210 to £395 (20 weeks)

Film is an art form that touches almost everyone’s life. Whether we prefer to watch movies at the cinema, or on television, or on an iPhone or tablet, most of us watch films once or twice a week. But what is the history of this art form and how do filmmakers create visual stories that can range from imaginary monsters roaming the streets of London, to simple tales of seemingly ordinary lives?
Film Studies: The American Musical (Evening - West Norwood)
Mondays - October to December - 18:30 to 20:30 West Norwood
Tutor: Eleonora Sammartino  Fees from £105 to £200 (10 weeks)

In The American Musical, we will explore the history of the American musical from its origins on screen in the early sound period to the present day. We will look at the enduring relation to theatre traditions, and parallel connections with television, the music industry, and digital media. We will learn how to analyse clips from film musicals and examine the role of the musical in American popular culture.

Greek and Roman Mythology in Art (Evening)
Tuesdays - October to March - 18:30 to 20:30 South Kensington
Tutors: Leslie Primo  Fees from £210 to £395 (20 weeks)

The myths of the ancient Greeks and Romans are some of the most exciting stories ever told. From Theseus outwitting the Minotaur to Odysseus escaping the one-eyed cyclops, and the innumerable stories of love involving the gods and goddesses of Mount Olympus, as well as an array of over-the-top superheroes, these tales are the foundation stone on which Western civilization was built. Because of that it is no surprise to learn they have been loved by artists from the moment they were first told until the present day.

History of Design: 1800 to the Present Day (Evening)
Wednesdays - October to March - 18:00 to 20:00 South Kensington
Tutor: David McKinstry  Fees from £210 to £395 (20 weeks)

History of Design is the study of the things around us that we use almost every moment of every day. From the clothes we wear, to the buildings we live and work in; from the vehicles we use to get around, to the phones in our pockets. On this course we are going on a fascinating journey which will allow us to explore some of the great historical and contemporary names in design, some of the great objects of design, and the relationship between designers and designed objects and society at different periods of time.
Introduction to Western European Art (Evening)
Wednesdays - October to March - 18:30 to 20:30 South Kensington
Tutor: Leslie Primo   Fees from £210 to £395 (20 weeks)

On this course we will explore a wide variety of Western European art works, from early Byzantine through to late Victorian art and Impressionism. The tutor will encourage us to participate in discussions on the different varieties of art we will look at, while guiding us to greater understanding of the lives of different artists, their cultural background and their influence on later developments in art.

Music Technology for Beginners (Evening)
Wednesdays - October to March - 18:30 to 20:30 South Kensington
Tutors: Karina Townsend   Fees from £210 to £395 (20 weeks)

This lively music technology course for beginners aims to introduce you to new technologies for music making including music programming and sound recording. In your studies you will be supported in producing music of your own, but you do not need to be able to read music in order to take this course. The ability to play a musical instrument is also not required, although a basic understanding of music and some keyboard skills would be an advantage.

Music: Discovering Opera (Evening)
Wednesdays - October to March - 18:30 to 20:30 South Kensington
Tutor: Bruno Bower   Fees from £210 to £395 (20 weeks)

The aim of this course is to give you new ways of listening to opera, whether you are getting to know the form for the first time or you are already familiar with it and are looking for something unusual. Together we will explore a wide variety of operas and their social and cultural contexts, ranging from the eighteenth century to the present day, catering to all tastes. If you are new to the genre will get to hear some of the most famous works in the form. If you are more familiar with opera you will gain fresh perspectives on the works you already know, and will have the opportunity to discover some less well-known works as well.
Music: Introduction to Classical Music (Evening)
Thursdays - October to March - 18:30 to 20:30 South Kensington
Tutor: Bruno Bower   Fees from £210 to £395 (20 weeks)

Baffled by Brahms? Perplexed by Prokofiev? This course offers new ways to understand classical music, without any jargon. The classes will gradually introduce tools that participants can use to get more out of their listening experience, starting with some of the basic concepts that lie behind classical music and building towards more abstract ideas of structure. People with no background in classical music are especially welcome, but even those who already have some knowledge will gain fresh perspectives on the more famous music discussed, and there will be plenty of opportunities to discover some less well-known pieces along the way.

Music: Introduction to Imperial College Lunchtime Concerts (Daytime)
Tuesdays - October to March - 13:00 to 13:50 South Kensington
Tutors: Bruno Bower   Fees from £105 to £200 (20 weeks)

The Blyth Centre for Music and Visual Arts is a place for people who want to make and enjoy the arts. Located at the heart of Imperial College, the Blyth holds weekly concerts, every Thursday from 13:00 to 13:45 during term time, open to everyone - students, staff and members of the public. Now, the Blyth has teamed up with the Centre for Languages, Culture and Communication to offer you the opportunity to learn more about the music you will hear at the Thursday concerts. On Tuesday lunchtimes from 13:00 to 13:50 Dr Bruno Bower will introduce you to the music being played the following Thursday lunchtime, giving you insights into the background of the composers, the times in which they lived, the influences on their work and what to listen out for in the concert.
Photography: Digital Devices (Daytime)
Thursdays - October to March - 12:00 to 12:50 South Kensington
Tutor: Honey Salvadori   Fees from £105 to £200 (20 weeks)

Smartphones, cameras and social media have revolutionised creativity and how we see the world. This lunchtime class will offer you time to explore your creative instincts and develop your technical expertise in digital photography in a practical and interactive way. Through a series of creative challenges, explored on photo-walks and in the CLCC studio, your tutor will help you to develop your creative photographic ‘voice’.

Photography: Practice and Theory (Evening)
Wednesdays - October to March - 18:00 to 20:00 South Kensington
Or Thursdays - October to March - 18:00 to 20:00 South Kensington
Tutors: Honey Salvadori   Fees from £210 to £395 (20 weeks)

Photography: Practice and Theory is a practical photography course for people who want to develop an understanding of the fundamental principles of photography and visual communication. The course is aimed at all levels of experience, so if you've only just started taking photographs, or already have some knowledge of photography, this course will help you to develop your practice.

Science Fiction in Art, Literature and Film (Evening)
Thursdays - October to March - 18:00 to 20:00 South Kensington
Tutor: Glyn Morgan   Fees from £210 to £395 (20 weeks)

Science fiction is going through a renaissance at the moment, and this course is designed to give us the opportunity to explore the history of science fiction as a genre, from one of the first writers of science fiction Margaret Cavendish, to the latest blockbuster movies. We will discover how science fiction has evolved, how it has manifested itself at different times, and how it often says as much about the time in which it is created as it does about an imagined future. On the course we will look at a number of science fiction writers and film and television makers in detail, as well as at the changing aesthetic of imagined worlds in science fiction.
Understanding Art: African Art (Evening)
Mondays - October to December - 18:00 to 20:00 South Kensington
Tutor: Alinta Sara   Fees from £95 to £178 (9 weeks)

African art in Western art history has often been perceived as belonging to the realm of the past, and frequently described as 'traditional', or as 'folk art'. With this course we will try to break out of those clichés to discover the exciting history, and sheer diversity and vibrancy, of modern and contemporary art in Africa.

Understanding Modern Art: From Impressionism to Now (Evening)
Thursdays - October to March - 18:30 to 20:30 South Kensington
Tutors: Michael Paraskos   Fees from £210 to £395 (20 weeks)

You are invited to join us on an exciting whistle-stop tour of the sometimes bewildering world of modern art, starting with the Impressionists in the 1870s, and ending with art now. The journey is a fascinating one, sometimes tragic, sometimes funny, and always extraordinary - if you have ever wanted to understand the modern and contemporary art in some of our most well-known museums and galleries, by artists ranging from Monet and Picasso, to Dali and Warhol, then this course for you!
Connecting Art, Design and Science
Tuesdays - October to December - 18:00 to 20:00 South Kensington
Tutor: Gus Subero   Fees from £95 to £178 (9 weeks)

This course considers historical and contemporary cross-disciplinary interactions between science, art and design. Its focus is on the productive relationship between these practices in their endeavours to understand and represent the world. We will reflect on the ways in which scientists have relied on artists to help shape and define their observation and image-making practices, and question some of the assumptions about perception and vision that underpin how images are made and used in science.

Europe’s 19th Century: The Birth of the Modern World (Evening)
Thursdays - October to December - 18:30 to 20:00 West Norwood
Tutor: Sheila Lecoeur   Fees from £95 to £178 (9 weeks)

The nineteenth century had a huge impact on everyday life and was a defining epoch in European history. Revolutions in industry, politics and society changed the world and placed Europe at the forefront of this transformation. The aim of this course will be to try and make the connections between these momentous events and understand what they mean for us today. We will explore and discuss the most interesting aspects of life in nineteenth-century Europe and students will be encouraged to participate as much as possible in class debates.
**Europe’s 20th Century: The Age of Extremes (Evening)**

Wednesdays - October to March - 18:30 to 20:00 West Norwood  
Tutor: Sheila Lecoeur  
Fees from £210 to £395 (20 weeks)

On this hugely popular long-running course Sheila Lecoeur will offer an introduction to the main historical events of the last century in Europe, and how they interconnect. The focus is on the First and Second World Wars, their causes and consequences; a subject which still fascinates us today, as its impact on our lives continues to be relevant. We will examine the increasing support for socialism and communism and the impact of the Russian Revolution and ask how the aftershocks of the Russian Revolution were linked to the advent of Fascism and Nazism.

**Film Studies: Introduction to Film (Evening)**

Thursdays - October to March - 18:00 to 20:00 South Kensington  
Tutor: Eleonora Sammartino  
Fees from £210 to £395 (20 weeks)

Film is an art form that touches almost everyone’s life. Whether we prefer to watch movies at the cinema, or on television, or on an iPhone or tablet, most of us watch films once or twice a week. But what is the history of this art form and how do filmmakers create visual stories that can range from imaginary monsters roaming the streets of London, to simple tales of seemingly ordinary lives?

**Greek and Roman Mythology in Art (Evening)**

Tuesdays - October to March - 18:30 to 20:30 South Kensington  
Tutors: Leslie Primo  
Fees from £210 to £395 (20 weeks)

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History of Design: 1800 to the Present Day (Evening)
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Tutor: David McKinstry   Fees from £210 to £395 (20 weeks)

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Science Fiction in Art, Literature and Film (Evening)
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Spellbound: A History of Magic (Evening)
Mondays - October to March - 18:00 to 20:00 South Kensington
Tutor: Tom Waters   Fees from £210 to £395 (20 weeks)

The celebrated court magician to Queen Elizabeth I, John Dee, was said to have owned a ‘black mirror’ that enabled him to see into the future, as well as a magic crystal, inhabited by a daemon, that could cure kidney disease. Of course, that was in the sixteenth century, and in our society we no longer believe in such things. Except even today, many people have a superstitious terror of breaking mirrors, and shops selling supposedly healing crystals can be found in many of Britain towns and cities. In this course, we will explore the history and practise of magic, spell-craft and the occult from ancient times to the present day. We will learn about witches, fairies, shamans and fortune-tellers, as well as beliefs in curses and ghosts, protective talisman and superstitious fears associated with the occult.

The Brain: Psychiatry, Psychology and Neuroscience (Evening)
Thursdays - October to March - 18:00 to 20:00 South Kensington
Tutor: Angela Richards   Fees from £210 to £395 (20 weeks)

In this evening course programme, we will delve into the inner workings of this fascinating organ- the brain. We will start with considering distinctions between psychiatry, psychology and neuroscience before embarking on a journey of the building blocks of the brain. We will explore questions such as what is the brain; how it functions, how it is affected by what we do, and what can happen when something goes wrong? Even a basic understanding of the brain can affect the way we live our lives and view the world, which has the potential to impact on aspects of physical health and mental wellbeing. This course aims to give you an insight into the brain’s intricacies in a way that is accessible, interesting, and relatable to all.
Understanding Philosophy (Evening)
Thursdays - October to March - 18:00 to 20:00 South Kensington
Tutor: Matthew Rowe   Fees from £210 to £395 (20 weeks)

Beginning with the idea of philosophy itself, and the changes in the definition of philosophy over the centuries, this course will focus on the works of a number of key historical and more contemporary philosophers. It will examine some of the key concepts philosophers have sought to address, their relationship to the societies in which they lived, and their influence on social thought and action, as well as their impact on subsequent thinkers.

Understanding Psychotherapy: A Social History of the Mind (Evening)
Tuesdays - October to December - 18:00 to 20:00 South Kensington
Tutors: Various   Fees from £95 to £178 (9 weeks)

Since the earliest recording of human culture, there has been evidence of human mental and emotional distress and ways to explain and alleviate it. On this nine week course we will explore aspects of the history of psychotherapy in the company of some of the leading figures working in psychotherapy today.

We will look at the pre-history of psychotherapy which stretches back as far as the ancient Greek writer Hippocrates in the third-century BCE, and we will look at other approaches rooted in ancient mystical and medical practices. Moving forward in time we will discover the work of Chalcot in the late 1800s, when psychological causes for physical symptoms started to be identified, which prompted the young Sigmund Freud to develop his psychoanalytic theory and practice, and finally we will move on to post-Freudian understandings of the mind and therapies used today.

The programme, delivered in partnership with the UK Council for Psychotherapy, will conclude with a consideration of what the future may hold against a backdrop of remarkable technological and medical advances, and yet seemingly ever-increasing feelings of anxiety and uncertainty.
Languages - Beginners, Intermediate, Advanced
Various daytime and evening

Learning a new language is one of the most rewarding activities you can do. Not only does it open up new possibilities for travel and employment, but it can lead to new insights into cultures from all over the world.

Learning a language is enjoyable too, with new friendships formed at our classes bringing together people from a wide variety of backgrounds with a shared interest in the language you are studying.

With our expert tutors on hand to guide you, you will soon find yourself developing new language skills that will open up a world of possibilities.

We currently have language classes available in:

- Arabic
- British Sign Language
- Chinese (Mandarin)
- French
- German
- Italian
- Japanese
- Korean
- Portuguese (Brazilian)
- Russian
- Spanish
Languages - Conversation and Improvement Classes
Various daytime and evening

If you already have some knowledge and understanding of a particular language you might like to join one of our conversation or improvement classes. These are designed to improve your skills and confidence in particular areas, such as speaking, pronunciation, understanding unusual expressions and (for Chinese) writing.

We currently have conversation and improvement classes in:

- English Conversation
- French Conversation
- German Conversation
- Italian Conversation
- Spanish Conversation
- Chinese (Mandarin) Writing Skills
I, Mammal: The Story of Mammals
Wednesdays - October to December - 18:00 to 20:00 South Kensington
Tutor: Liam Drew  Fees from £95 to £178 (9 weeks)

On this course we will be taken on an illuminating and enjoyable journey centred on a seemingly simple question - what is a mammal? As mammals ourselves, we might think we know all about our own class of animals. But this course might lead us to some surprising discoveries. We will look at how mammals are defined, how they evolved and the similarities between different mammal species as well as their crucial differences.

History of Design: 1800 to the Present Day (Evening)
Wednesdays - October to March - 18:00 to 20:00 South Kensington
Tutor: David McKinstry  Fees from £210 to £395 (20 weeks)

History of Design is the study of the things around us that we use almost every moment of every day. From the clothes we wear, to the buildings we live and work in; from the vehicles we use to get around, to the phones in our pockets. On this course we are going on a fascinating journey which will allow us to explore some of the great historical and contemporary names in design, some of the great objects of design, and the relationship between designers and designed objects and society at different periods of time.

Connecting Art, Design and Science
Tuesdays - October to December - 18:00 to 20:00 South Kensington
Tutor: Gus Subero  Fees from £95 to £178 (9 weeks)

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The Body: In Sickness and in Health (Evening)
Tuesdays - October to March - 18:00 to 20:00 South Kensington
Tutors: Chris Palmer   Fees from £210 to £395 (20 weeks)

Have you ever wondered how our bodies work? The fact is that our bodies are an amazing product of billions of years of life on earth. The building blocks of our bodies are cells, small machine like units that are more complex than any man made object. Cells are grouped together to form tissues and organ systems with specialised functions such as absorption of nutrients, uptake of oxygen, excretion of waste, movement, defence, perception. Designed as a course for people of all ages and with different backgrounds and experiences, this course is an introduction for non-specialists who have an interest in medicine and would like to understand better what appears in the press.

The Brain: Psychiatry, Psychology and Neuroscience (Evening)
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Tutor: Angela Richards   Fees from £210 to £395 (20 weeks)

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The programme, delivered in partnership with the UK Council for Psychotherapy, will conclude with a consideration of what the future may hold against a backdrop of remarkable technological and medical advances, and yet seemingly ever-increasing feelings of anxiety and uncertainty.

This course is run in collaboration with the UK Council for Psychotherapy
Dr Michael Paraskos holds a Fellowship of the Higher Education Academy, is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts, and also teaches art history to undergraduate students at the City and Guilds of London Art School. As well as reviewing exhibitions and novels for BBC Radio 4’s Front Row and The Spectator magazine, his first novel In Search of Sixpence was published in 2016 and his second, called Rabbitman, was published in 2017.


Honey Salvadori has works as a photographer for magazines including The Face and Time Out. In the late 1980s she began working for Q magazine which led to a five year long phase of documenting bands on tour including Bros, Joe Strummer and the Pogues, Texas, the Beautiful South and L7 amongst many others. She also worked for Vox magazine, the Telegraph and Sunday Times Magazine during this time.

Dr Gus Subero is a teacher and researcher, whose work focusses mainly on gender and representation in the contemporary media, as well as social policy and cultural representation in modern society. He is currently investigating the ways in which disability and health stigma are represented in the visual cultures of Latin America and the Caribbean.
INTRODUCING SOME OF OUR TUTORS

Leslie Primo is a highly experienced and well-known art historian who has appeared on television and radio, and who has also lectured at organisations including the National Gallery in London and Wallace Collection.

David McKinstry is a renowned specialist in design history, formerly secretary to the Georgian Society and adviser to London local government on development applications for historical buildings in the city.

Karina Townsend is a highly experienced musician, composer and tutor. Karina studied first at the University of Edinburgh, went on to become head of music at Hammersmith and West London College. As well as working in the music industry and teaching at Imperial College, Karina also teaches at the University of East London.

Dr Glyn Morgan is a project curator at the Science Museum in London working on a forthcoming major exhibition at the museum exploring the links between science and science fiction, and an Honorary Research Fellow at the University of Liverpool. He is co-editor, with Charul Palmer-Patel, of the book Sideways in Time: Critical Essays on Alternate History Fiction, due to be published by Liverpool University Press in September 2019.
Dr Sheila Lecoeur has specialised in Italian studies and is currently Coordinator of Italian in the Centre for Languages, Communication and Culture. Sheila is also a social historian of Europe in the 20th century, with a particular interest in the history of fascism and the Second World War. Sheila has engaged in historical research and has produced a documentary for television about Greece in World War II.

Dr Eleonora Sammartino is an experienced teacher in Film Studies and festival organiser. In addition to Imperial College, she has taught at King's College London, University of Reading, and BFI Southbank. Eleonora has worked for film festivals in Italy and UK and currently collaborates with FILL – Festival of Italian Literature in London.

Dr Liam Drew is a science writer and former neurobiologist. He writes regularly for Nature and has also written for The Guardian, Slate, New Scientist, Aeon, and BBC Wildlife. I, Mammal: The Story of What Makes Us Mammals (Bloomsbury) is his first book. His academic career was spent researching brains at UCL and Columbia University, New York.

Dr Bruno Bower is a lively and enthusiastic tutor, whose love of music is infectious. He is both an academic and a performer, having studied at Oriel College, Oxford, Birmingham Conservatoire, and King's College London. He completed his PhD at the Royal College of Music in 2016, and is the General Editor for critical editions of music by Peter Gellhorn and Norman O’Neill.
INTRODUCING SOME OF OUR TUTORS

Dr Thomas Waters is an expert on the history of magic who has taught at the universities of Oxford, Leeds, Derby and Hertfordshire, as well as here at Imperial College. Tom has published numerous articles on the modern history of witchcraft, and his new book, Cursed Britain: A History of Witchcraft and Black Magic in Modern Times, will be published by Yale University Press in August 2019.

Dr Alinta Sara is an art historian who studied at SOAS University of London. Her current research focuses in the cultural links between Africa and the Diaspora. Her current research is on the Afro-Brazilian architectural heritage in the Bight of Benin and reflects on the link between collect memory, space and architecture.

Professor Chris Palmer has had a varied and interesting career working on the HIV-1 virus, yeast ion channels, the nervous system and cancer. Chris has worked at Reading University, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Columbia University, Imperial College London and currently London Metropolitan University. His current research interests include advancing our understanding of cancer and pain. He also has interests in herbal and complementary medicine.

Dr Matthew Rowe is an extremely experienced and engaging teacher of philosophy, as well as being a practising philosopher in his own right. His interests lie in aesthetics, the philosophy of art and relationship between artistic practice and art theory. He is primarily a writer, although he also engages in solo and collaborative visual art practises and is currently working on a study of John Waters and a philosophical analysis of irony and sincerity.
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