Reading prehistoric figurines

Date 12th May 2018  Time 10:00 – 16:45

Venue Madingley Hall
     Madingley
     Cambridge

Academic Director Dr Isabelle Vella Gregory

Course code 1718NDX031

Director of Programmes Emma Jennings

For further information on this course, please contact Clare Kerr, Public Programmes Coordinator 01223 746237 clare.kerr@ice.cam.ac.uk

To book See: www.ice.cam.ac.uk or telephone 01223 746262

Tutor biography

Dr Vella Gregory is affiliate scholar at the McDonald Institute for Archaeological Research, University of Cambridge. She was previously Junior Research Fellow at Christ’s College, Cambridge. Her research interests include the prehistoric Mediterranean and the Maghreb, figurines and ceramics.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>09:30</td>
<td>Terrace bar open for pre-course tea/ coffee</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:00 – 11:15</td>
<td>An introduction to the world of figurines and a history of figurine studies</td>
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<td>11:15</td>
<td>Coffee</td>
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<td>11:45 – 13:00</td>
<td>Palaeolithic figurines</td>
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<td>13:00</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
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<td>14:00 – 15:15</td>
<td>Neolithic figurines</td>
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<td>15:15</td>
<td>Tea</td>
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<td>15:30 – 16:45</td>
<td>Figurines and interpretation</td>
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<tr>
<td>16:45</td>
<td>Day school ends</td>
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Aims:

1. Develop a good understanding and knowledge of prehistoric figurines as taught through the lectures and which is tested during the discussion sessions
2. Enhance analytical and critical thinking skills through the group and individual exercises under the guidance of the lecturer
3. Increased appreciation of the complexities of human ingenuity in expressing actions and ideas through material presentation, combining both the materials presented and discussed during the lectures and their personal experiences

Content:

Prehistoric figurines elicit many reactions and emotions. They show the human body in many fascinating ways and, in many ways, are the closest we can get to seeing prehistoric people. This course will explore the diversity in prehistoric figurines and engage with questions of art, what figurines mean to the viewer, how figurines have been interpreted and how we can come to grips with their meaning. This course will engage with the artefacts and their meaning. It will also explore questions of interpretation and how we construct our knowledge of visual imagery. The course will be highly illustrated and user participation and discussion is welcomed.

Presentation of the course:

Lectures, discussion, plenty of slides and also group activities.

As a result of the course, within the constraints of the time available, students should be able:

- To identify and understand the major figurines from prehistory.
- To apply analytical skills to other related material.
- To understand how and why humans create visual representation in specific contexts.
- To pursue further independent study using the tools acquired in this course.
Reading and resources list

Listed below are a number of texts that might be of interest for future reference, but do not need to be bought (or consulted) for the course.


I will bring a selection of books and articles which participants are very welcome to consult.
Additional information

Venue

Details of how to find Madingley Hall can be found on our website:
http://www.ice.cam.ac.uk/who-we-are/how-to-find-the-institute

Refreshments

Tea and coffee and a light sandwich lunch will be provided. If you have any specific dietary requirements or allergies and have not already advised us, please inform our Admissions Team on ice.admissions@ice.cam.ac.uk or +44 (0)1223 746262.

Note Students of the Institute of Continuing Education are entitled to 20% discount on books published by Cambridge University Press (CUP) which are purchased at the Press bookshop, 1 Trinity Street, Cambridge (Mon-Sat 9am – 5:30pm, Sun 11am – 5pm). A letter or email confirming acceptance on to a current Institute course should be taken as evidence of enrolment.

Information correct as of: 14 December 2017