

CSG SIXTH FORM MASTERCLASSES

AUTUMN 2018 PROGRAMME



CSG SIXTH FORM MASTERCLASSES

No exams.

No grades.

Just interesting speakers and stimulating discussions.

- Masterclasses are extra-curricular lessons delivered by teachers from CSG or visiting experts in various fields.
- Each masterclass will either provide an introduction to a subject which is not taught at A Level – or explore a new aspect of a subject you are familiar with - taking you beyond the confines of the A Level syllabus.
- Most sessions should be accessible and of interest to students who study the subject in question, as well as those who do not. We hope that a student who is studying sciences would still be interested in poetry and music, and a student of the arts would be interested in scientific questions.
- Hopefully attendance will encourage students to read further and perhaps inspire some to pursue a subject at university.
- Aim to arrive at S5 (Sixth Form Hall) soon after 3.30pm – usually there will be tea, coffee and biscuits – the session will begin at about 3.40pm and finish by 5pm at the latest - **but watch out for occasional exceptions.**



CSG Masterclasses/History of Ideas

– sign up to receive updates and announcements.

Unfortunately, due to severe and ongoing government cuts to the funding of state education since 2010 (and particularly of post-16 state education), it is with regret that we feel we have to make a charge for certain extra-curricular opportunities such as these.

- **Attendance is free for students on bursaries or free school meals.**
- For students who are not on free school meals or a bursary the cost is £10 for a ‘season ticket’ to attend as many masterclasses as you like in one term – so if you come to all 10 that is just £1 per session!
- Parents are also welcome - £5 for one masterclass
- All parents/guardians of students at the school will be sent an invitation to pay through parentpay by email.

We hope that you will find something of interest in these masterclasses - and that you enjoy them as much as we enjoy preparing and delivering them.

Jon Stubbings

CSG Masterclass Programme Co-ordinator

Thursday 8th November - 3.35pm - S5

WHAT DID GREEK COMEDY LOOK LIKE? WITH NAOMI SCOTT

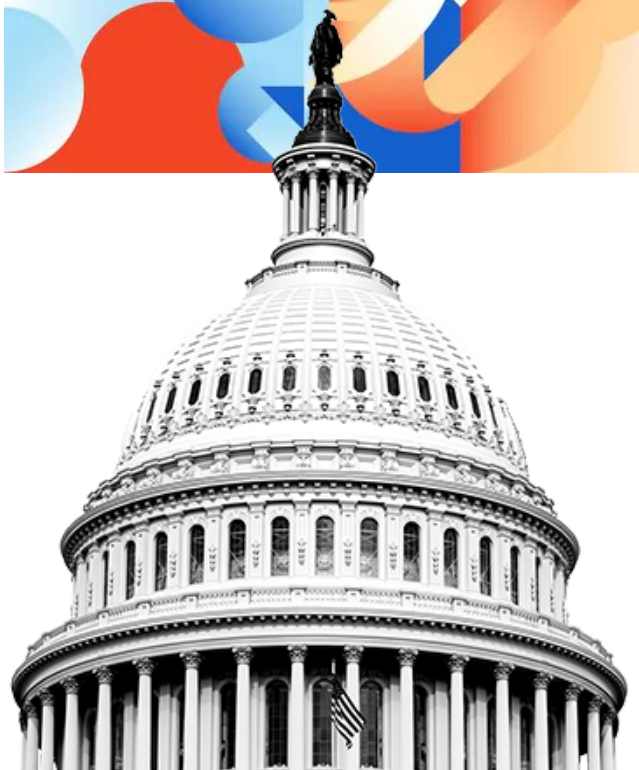
How do you make someone look funny? The ancient Athenians were the inventors of staged drama - comedy and tragedy - and with it, props, costumes and theatrical effects that enhanced their gestures and supplied innuendo in abundance. Dr Naomi Scott (Nottingham University) will talk us through the use of costume and props in the Athenian theatre scene that allowed playwrights and directors the chance to win huge recognition in public life.



Monday 12th November - 3.35pm - S5

THE US MIDTERMS 2018: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW WITH JONATHAN FREEDLAND

The upcoming 2018 US midterm elections on 6 November will give US voters their first chance to pass judgment on Donald Trump since he took the White House. To take control of the legislative agenda and block Trump's ability to implement his programs, the Democrats need to control both houses. There are also many contests at state level to elect governors and other key posts. Come to this masterclass to hear the journalist and author Jonathan Freedland explain what you need to know about the US electoral system and the implications of this year's results.



Thursday 15th November - 3.35pm - S5

AN INTRODUCTION TO THE HISTORY, PHILOSOPHY AND POLITICS OF SCIENCE – WITH EMMA TOBIN

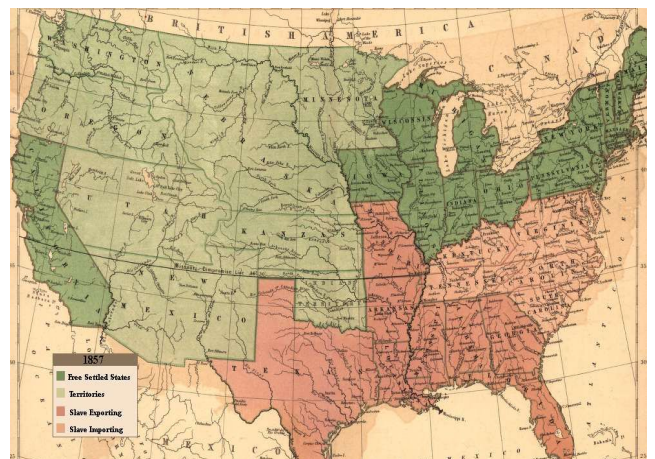
In this masterclass Dr Emma Tobin (associate professor at UCL’s Department of Science and Technology Studies) will introduce the study of the History and Philosophy of Science - exploring the relationship between science, technology and medicine and wider society and politics. Is the clash between science and religion inevitable? Is science ‘progressive’, or are science and ethics in opposition? How have politicians used science and technology in the past (particularly in wartime), and how should it be used in the future? How and why should science be communicated to the non-expert general public? Come along to discuss these, and other important questions.



Monday 19th November - 3.35pm - S5

THE AMERICAN CIVIL WAR WITH JON STUBBINGS

The American Civil War between the North (the ‘Union’) and the South, (the ‘Confederacy’) resulted in the abolition of slavery, but by no means full equality for African-Americans. More Americans died in it than in WW1, WW2, Vietnam, Iraq and Afghanistan put together. The Civil War casts a long shadow on all subsequent American history and literature; it has been described as the ‘first modern industrial war’ and it can be viewed as the crucible in which the American superpower of the 20th Century was forged. Why did the war begin in 1861? Is Abraham Lincoln’s reputation as one of the greatest presidents of all time justified? Why did the North win? What is the enduring political and cultural legacy of the Civil War? This masterclass will attempt to answer some of these questions.



Thursday 22nd November - 3.35pm - S5



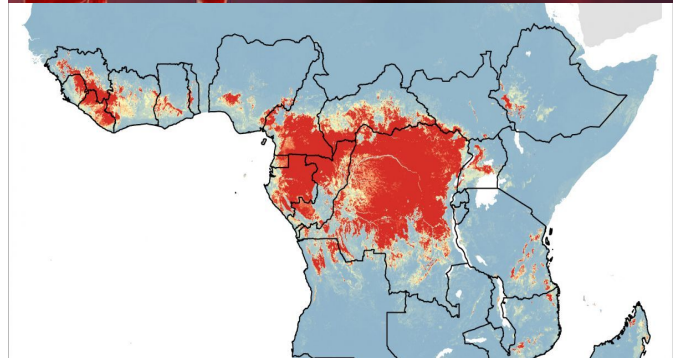
GEOPOLITICS, CAPTAIN AMERICA AND DONALD TRUMP WITH JASON DITTMER

Can the story of all American super-hero, Captain America, teach us lessons about the racist Alt-right and the rise of Trump? Professor Jason Dittmer thinks so. In this masterclass, he will trace the outlines of Trump's populism, power, and pugnacious foreign policy in the pages of Captain America comics. Possibly the coolest Professor you are ever likely to meet, Jason Dittmer, from the faculty of Political Geography at UCL, studies the geographies of comic books, and critical approaches to diplomacy. He has published several books on geopolitics and popular culture, including *Captain America and the Nationalist Superhero: Metaphors, Narratives, and Geopolitics*.

Monday 26th November - 3.35pm - S5

THE EBOLA OUTBREAK – GLOBAL AND LOCAL PERSPECTIVES WITH MELISSA PARKER

Melissa Parker is a Professor of Medical Anthropology at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. During the 2013-2015 Ebola outbreak in West Africa, she worked closely with the WHO, UK Department of International Development and humanitarian aid agencies to design programmes to contain the outbreak. Melissa reflects on these experiences in the light of recent village-based fieldwork in Sierra Leone. In particular, she asks: how did local understandings and responses to Ebola influence the transmission of Ebola? How, if at all, did national and international responses shape the course of the outbreak? As Ebola continues to spread in DRC, is there any indication that UN or humanitarian agencies are going to avoid past errors?



Thursday 29th November - 3.35pm - S5

SIR JOHN SOANE - A VERY MODERN MAN WITH RHIANNON LITTERICK

Sir John Soane is arguably one of Britain's most famous architects. Known as "the architect of light", Soane was an innovator, creator and prolific collector in 18th and 19th century London. He designed iconic buildings such as the Bank of England and Dulwich Picture Gallery, and left his house museum to the nation. In this talk, join Rhiannon Litterick from Sir John Soane's Museum to explore the man behind the museum, and discuss how typical Soane was of his time.



Monday 3rd December - 3.35pm - S5

DYSTOPIAS AND SCIENCE FICTION WITH DAN SMITH

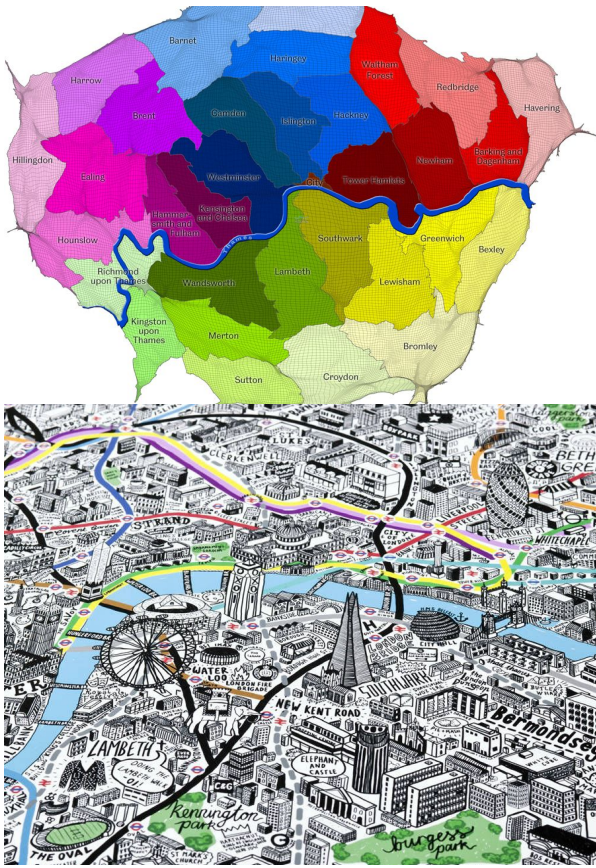
Francis Bacon's *New Atlantis* and Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein* can be seen as the first examples of the crossover between Utopias/Dystopias and Science Fiction, and perhaps as instigating the Science Fiction genre itself. However, the modern author most associated with Utopian/Dystopian Science Fiction, and with influencing the development of this fertile territory in the 20th Century, is H.G. Wells, in books such as *The Time Machine* and *The Shape of Things to Come*. Dan Smith, Senior Lecturer in Fine Art Theory at Chelsea College of Arts, will explore this fascinating crossover through a survey of the literature, the popular culture that it spawned in film and TV, and the way in which these ideas continue to be represented in contemporary art.



Thursday 6th December - 3.35pm - S5

COLOURING LONDON WITH POLLY HUDSON

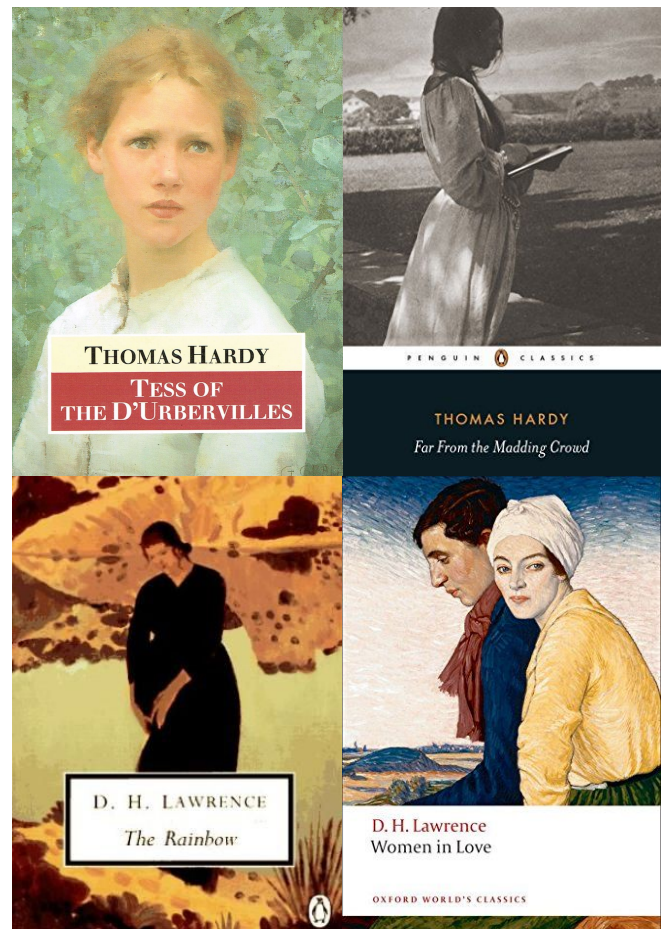
This masterclass presents a unique opportunity to contribute to an ambitious project which is building the most comprehensive functional, historical, and aesthetic map of London ever devised. UCL's world-renowned Centre for Advanced Spatial Analysis is launching its 'Colouring London' project, and they have chosen Camden School for Girls as a partner to help shape its future. How many buildings are there in London? What are they being used for? When were they built? Are they fit for purpose? Does anyone like them? Currently no one has compiled and made public this sort of information - vital to understanding the past and planning a sustainable Capital for the future. Come along to learn how to be part of perhaps the most ambitious crowd-sourcing project since Wikipedia.



Monday 10th December - 3.35pm - S5

WOMEN IN LITERATURE (WRITTEN BY MEN) WITH CATHERINE BROWN

In a recent opinion piece for The Guardian a columnist declared that male authors “can’t write women” and their books can therefore safely be dismissed as rubbish - reluctantly granting that a couple, like Tolstoy and Flaubert, are OK, but they “remain the exceptions.” Certainly many writers once considered not only good in a literary/artistic sense, but also sympathetic in their presentation of strong female characters and ‘progressive’ in their attitudes towards the role of women in society, are increasingly being consigned to the dustbin by the changing tastes (or rather ideologies) of the literary establishment and English teachers in schools and universities - either for being less than saintly in their personal lives (by 21st Century standards) - or simply for being male. Dr Catherine Brown from the New College of the Humanities will explore these issues, and perhaps defend the reputations of a few writers, such as Thomas Hardy and D.H. Lawrence, who students of literature would do well not to write off so quickly.



AND A SPECIAL EVENING EVENT TO RAISE FUNDS FOR THE CLASSICS DEPARTMENT:



Natalie Haynes in Conversation

Comedian, classicist and author Natalie Haynes takes us on a whirlwind tour through the world of ancient Greece and Rome, exploring the fascinating and amusing classical world and its modern legacy.



Join us for an evening of entertainment, conversation and ancient inspiration! Natalie will be joined for a Q&A by writer, critic and classics fanatic, **Charlotte Mendelson.**

Proceeds from the event will go towards maintaining Camden School for Girls' **Ancient Greek** courses, which aim to inspire the next generation of classicists.

£15 (includes a drink)
Concession/student: £5

Tickets via
ParentPay or
on the door

Any questions: ebateson@csg.school

THURSDAY 29TH
NOV, 7-9PM
CAMDEN SCHOOL
FOR GIRLS



THE CAMDEN
SCHOOL FOR GIRLS
SIXTH FORM