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Programme

This course will run on Tuesdays from 9.45am - 4.30pm (each session will include at least one break, with 45 minutes for lunch)

Week 1 - Tuesday January 15th

Session 1

Introduction to the course: What is a garden? What is garden history? How do we 'do' it?

The rest of this session will offer an overview of the period up to the mid-16th century looking at the influence of medieval gardens and also the gardens of the Italian Renaissance.

Session 2

Elizabethan gardens, with case studies including the Elizabethan garden at Kenilworth, New Place Garden at Stratford upon Avon and Lyvedon New Bield in Northamptonshire. This session will include examination of contemporary books and maps.

Week 2 - Tuesday January 22nd

Session 1

Gardening in the seventeenth century, focussing on changes brought about by the voyages of discovery in to the New World and the rise of 'conspicuous consumption', including case studies of gardens of the Jacobean era and the Anglo Dutch gardens from later in the century. This session will include examination of contemporary diaries, memorandum books and garden plans.

Session 2

The eighteenth century: Arcadia, Rococo and the landscape garden. Session will include an interactive debate: 'Capability Brown - Vandal or Visionary?'

Week 3 - Tuesday January 29th

Session 1

The nineteenth century: including the gardens at Highbury and an illustrated walk around the grounds.

Session 2

Basic research skills: using archival material from Highbury, how do we go about finding out more about gardens and landscapes?

Tutors: Dr Jill Francis (Worcester University) and Advolly Richmond (The Gardens Trust)