

Cambridge History for Schools 2017-18 Programme





Do you like to crack myths and find out what really happened in the past?

Do you like to imagine how it would feel to live in a different time or place?

Do you wonder how the world came to be the way it is?

Then we need you!

Cambridge History for Schools is an exciting outreach initiative from one of the world's leading History Faculties. Workshops are hands-on and designed to stimulate a passion for asking questions about the past and trying out new ideas. You can act out an ancient Greek animal sacrifice, create a queen, or even rebuild a war torn Europe as we engage with some of history's biggest problems, events and personalities. Meet other young people who love playing with ideas, and together unearth some unexpected insights about our past!

Cost: Free

Location: All sessions will be at the Faculty of History building, West Rd, Cambridge, CB3 9EF

Time: 11am until 12:30pm

To book: email admin@hist.cam.ac.uk (max. 4 participants per booking)

For more projects for schools visit www.cam.ac.uk/public-engagement

Michaelmas Term: Saturday, 11 November 2018

Healing with Pepper, Mummies, and Unicorns Laia Portet-i-Codina

Since Columbus' discovery of America in 1492, Europeans had been exploring new sears, conquering new lands, and bringing strange products back to their country. Europeans were fascinated with new plants, animals, and minerals. But they were also quite confused about what they were and how to use them. Where did unicorn tusks come from? Could mummies heal epilepsy? Was pepper a medicine and a food at the same time?

Join Laia Portet-i-Codina as we explore the bizarre world of seventeenth-century medicine in France. You will discover what you could buy in a pharmacy in Paris, and even get to make your own remedy using an old recipe!

Key Stage 2 (ages 7-11)



Out of the Ashes: Rebuilding Europe after the Second World War

In 1945, Europe lay in ruins. But within only a few years, Western Europe was wealthy, democratic and peaceful. Today, we can sometimes take this for granted. But at the time, very few people imagined that Europe would experience such an incredible recovery. In fact, most people believed that a new war was imminent.

In this session, we will look not only at what actually happened in Europe after the Second World War, but also at the visions and fears of what might have happened, but never did. We will try to get into the heads of the people entrusted with rebuilding Europe, and ask ourselves how they dealt with the biggest problems of the time. Finally, you will get to debate what you would have done if you were in their situation.

Key Stage 3 (ages 11-14)



Lent Term: Saturday 10 February 2018

Imaging Queen Victoria

Eirik Roesvik

Close your eyes and try to describe Queen Victoria. How does she look? Is she a young woman or an old widow? In full regalia or in black widow's garb?

In this workshop, we will look at the many images of Queen Victoria: as a woman, a monarch, a symbol of empire, and a mother. In the late 1850s, people collected photographs of celebrities, but buying a photo was just one of many ways in which the Victorians could see the Queen that gave name to their age. We will learn about her life and use visual sources to understand how our ideas of Victoria were shaped. This allows us to go beyond the popular conceptions of the Queen and see how we have created "our own" Victoria.

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Key Stage 2 (ages 7-11)

Religion in Ancient Greece

Professor Tim Whitmarsh

You probably think of religious practice as a very solemn activity. But the ancient Greeks thought of their religious festivals as huge parties, grand celebrations of their communities. At the heart of the ritual lay blood sacrifice: animals— the more, the bigger, and more expensive the better— were led to the god's altar, slain, roasted, and eaten by the worshippers. What was religious about this messy, noisy, smelly activity? What pleasure could gods possibly take in the slaughter of an innocent animal? And how did this activity eventually evolve into Christian ritual? Come and find out!

Key Stage 3 (ages 11-14)



Easter Term: Saturday 5 May 2018

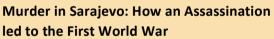
Early Modern Traveller and the Fantastic Nature of New Worlds

Sebestian Kroupa

Imagine boarding a ship that would take you across the oceans to a new, fantastic land. Picture all the different cultures you would meet, the unusual places you would visit, and the strange animals and plants you would see. With the world opening up in the early modern period, many travellers embarked on such a journey into the unknown. But how — in an age without phones, internet or proper mailing systems — would you keep in touch with your friends who stayed home? And how would you describe to them all your new hard-to-believe experiences?

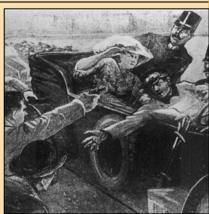
Join Sebestian Kroupa on a voyage to the seventeenth-century Philippines and explore its fantastic beasts and bizarre plants. Together with early modern travellers, we will grapple with setting out on a dangerous expedition and with the quest to represent the unfamiliar nature of the new worlds. You will get to plan your own voyage, as well as collect your own plant specimens and use them to create your own herbaria.

Key Stage 2 (ages 7-11)



Professor Sir Christopher Clark

On 28 June 1914, the heir to the throne of the Austro-Hungarian Empire and his wife were assassinated in Sarajevo, the capital of Bosnia. Their assassin was a Bosnian Serb, who dreamed of bringing Bosnia into a Serbian state. But the attack quickly became a political problem for all of Europe, producing a crisis that within just a matter of weeks led to the outbreak of the First World War.



How important was the assassination in causing the war? Was it simply an excuse by larger powers to settle old scores? What role did other powers play in the crisis? And how much importance should we attach to the acts of individuals in history? Professor Sir Christopher Clark will take us through the event of summer 1914. We will discuss images of the assassination to help us solve the many problems we face when asking why this horrific war happened.

Key Stage 3 (ages 11-14)

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