

UNIQUE SHORT COURSES AT THE WORDSWORTH TRUST

'See into the life of things' An experience of place, literature & artefacts

The Wordsworth Trust holds an internationally important collection of manuscripts relating to Wordsworth and the Romantics, first editions of books by key figures, and watercolours by artists who visited the Lake District from 1750 onwards.

Set in the valley likened by Wordsworth to 'paradise', Dove Cottage was home to his greatest years as a writer. Grasmere valley and its people were the subject of many of Wordsworth's poems, as well as journal entries by his sister Dorothy.

We are uniquely placed to offer an all-round experience of place, literature and artefacts.

- Learning will come through direct contact with original materials, brought to life by the Trust's experienced curatorial team, in the cottage itself and in the adjoining state-of-the-art research library.

- Exploring the archives offers the student a

sense of closeness or contact with the writers in question, as well as genuine sense of discovery, or the possibility of discovery.

- Practical curatorial knowledge, such as handling, caring for and using collections, will be an intrinsic part of the sessions. Programmes can be tailored to your interests, needs and budgets. Build your own programme from any combination of the following modules and sessions. If your group has any other specific interests, we would be pleased to discuss how they may be included.

Half day sessions in the Jerwood Centre Reading Room:

General introductions and in-depth sessions on a variety of topics, illustrated with manuscripts and books from the collection, can be as short or as long as required.

- William Wordsworth
- Wordsworth and his sister, Dorothy
- Wordsworth and Coleridge
 - 'The Rime of the Ancient Mariner': an illustrated talk
 - The Younger Romantics
 - Dorothy Wordsworth's journals and journal writing
 - The Lives of women, told through their letters
 - The discovery of the Lake District in the Eighteenth-century, illustrated with books, watercolours and prints from the time. Can include a special section on Wordsworth's Guide to the Lakes though all its editions, including original drawings for the Select Views of 1810 in which the first text appeared.

- The development of the Trust, its collections and their stewardship. How to care for a Designated Collection, and discussion on exploiting its potential for learning in its widest sense. In essence, an introduction to museum curatorship.

- How people read poetry in the early nineteenth century. A session of reading from Wordsworth's lifetime publications, looking at design, physical makeup and print runs.

- Reading and transcribing early nineteenth century manuscripts, the sessions can include an introduction to the international standard for digital transcriptions, the Text Encoding Initiative.

- The growth of a poet's poem!

All surviving manuscripts of 'The Prelude' are owned and

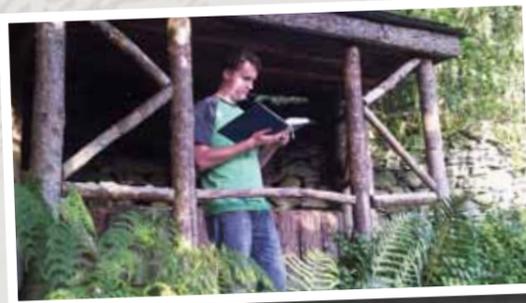
cared for by the The Wordsworth Trust. The session will include discussion of key manuscripts, the drafting process and final publication, as well as Wordsworth's own copy of Paradise Lost.

- Creative writing workshop with the Trust's Poet-in-Residence.

Evenings in Dove Cottage:

- Spend an evening in Dove Cottage, eating food specially prepared from the Wordsworth's own recipe books.

- Learn how to read poetry out loud in the house in which it was written.



Up to half day literary walks around the neighbourhood of Grasmere:

The beautiful Grasmere valley is rich in Wordsworthian associations, as well as in its own history and culture. These walks can be tailored to suit your interests and levels of fitness, and can focus on specific poems of your choice. Walks can include:

- Around Grasmere Lake and Village
- To Wordsworth's later home of Rydal Mount (including a visit to the house itself) via the coffin path
- Around the two lakes of Grasmere and Rydal.

Please contact us to discuss your tailored programme and pricing:

The Wordsworth Trust
 Dove Cottage
 Grasmere
 Cumbria
 LA22 9SH
 ENGLAND
 Tel: + 44 (0) 15394 35544
 enquiries@wordsworth.org.uk
 www.wordsworth.org.uk



Testimonials:

Professor Jesse Matz - Kenyon College

"Really an outstanding opportunity to see context, perspective and experience - beautifully managed and endlessly interesting"

Professor Leslee Thorne-Murphy - Brigham Young University

"The hands on work with the facsimiles was invaluable, and seeing the rare edition is always superb. Both Catherine and Jeff made the documents come to life for the students"

Dr Ruth Connolly - Newcastle University

"The expertise of the curator Jeff Cowton and his staff deepened my students' knowledge of the literature and writers of the Romantic period in ways that only exposure to the original manuscripts could achieve ... The session which Jeff developed also showed them ways to read not only eighteenth-century handwriting but also eighteenth-century documents, encouraging them to think about how ink traces and pencil marks, paper weight and size, as well as the words on the page, could help them understand the text ... This collaborative approach, which covered everything from handling 200-year old letters ..., meant they received the kind of hands-on experience with archival material that is rare, in my experience. What made the session most enjoyable, however, was the enthusiasm and friendliness of Jeff and his team and their incredible knowledge of the materials which they so willingly shared with us."



WORDSWORTH TRUST