



CSG SIXTH FORM MASTERCLASSES



Autumn 2024 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.**

Unfortunately, due to government cuts to the funding of state education since 2010 (and particularly of post-16 state education), it is with regret that 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 only £1 per session!
- Parents/guardians will be sent an invitation to pay through ParentPay by email.

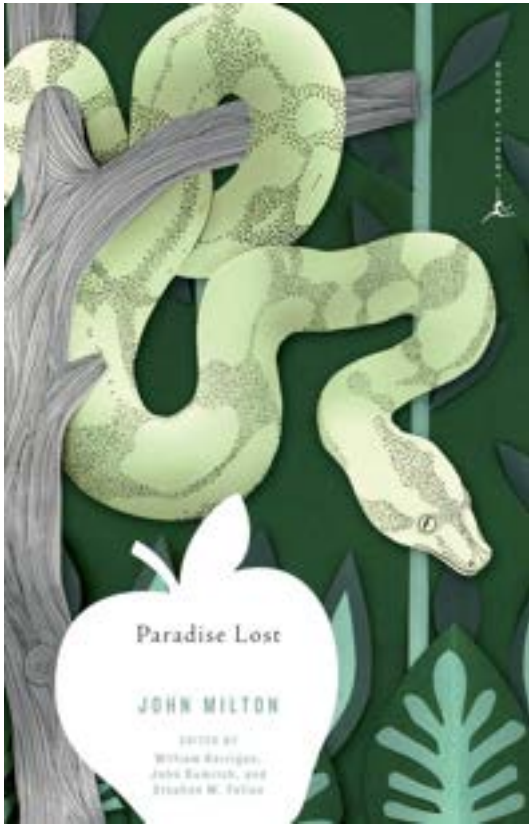
Parents and friends are welcome to attend masterclasses - one off tickets for a session are £10 (this will be used to subsidise the participation of students from less well off backgrounds in the residential trip at the end of the year) - please email jstubbings@csg.school to register your interest.

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 24th October - 3.30pm - S5



The Revolutionary Life of *Paradise Lost*

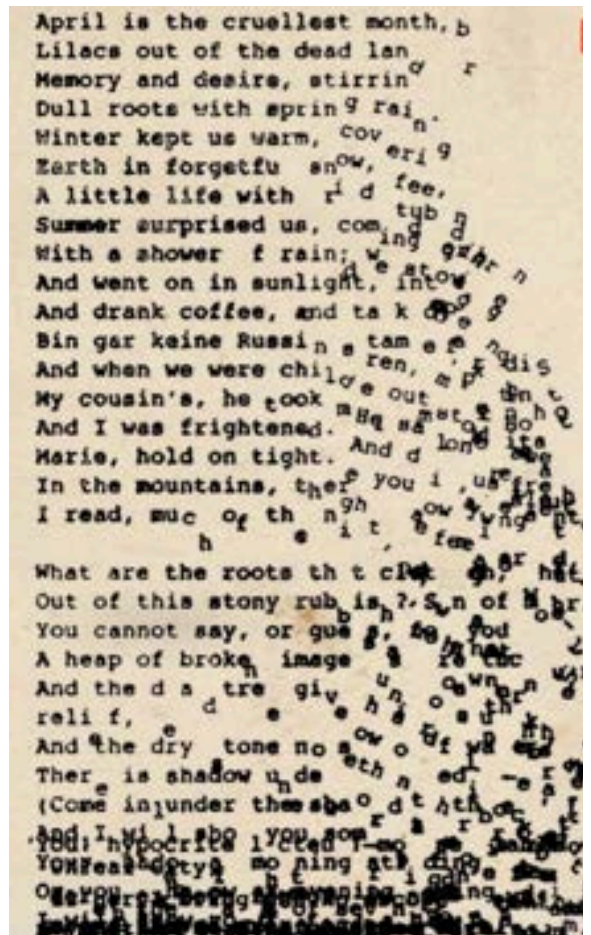
with Orlando Reade

Over the 350 years since it was written, Milton's English epic poem *Paradise Lost* has inspired hugely different interpretations from its readers. In this masterclass, Orlando Reade, author of the soon to be published 'What in Me is Dark - The Revolutionary Afterlife of *Paradise Lost*', will focus on three of the poem's readers - Thomas Jefferson, Virginia Woolf, and Malcolm X, describing how they were inspired by Milton's epic, and how each of them reimagined it for their own, revolutionary, purposes.

Monday 11th November - 3.30pm - S5

The Poetics of T.S. Eliot with Mark Ford

In this masterclass, Mark Ford, poet and Professor of English Literature at UCL, will explore the poetic method of T.S. Eliot in his early poems 'The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock' and 'The Waste Land'. Some knowledge of the poems would be helpful in order to get the most out of this session - but even if you haven't read or studied them yet - Mark will take us through some close reading of extracts and employ his own poetic and critical experience in elucidating Eliot's use of free verse techniques and allusion.



Thursday 14th November - 3.30pm - S5



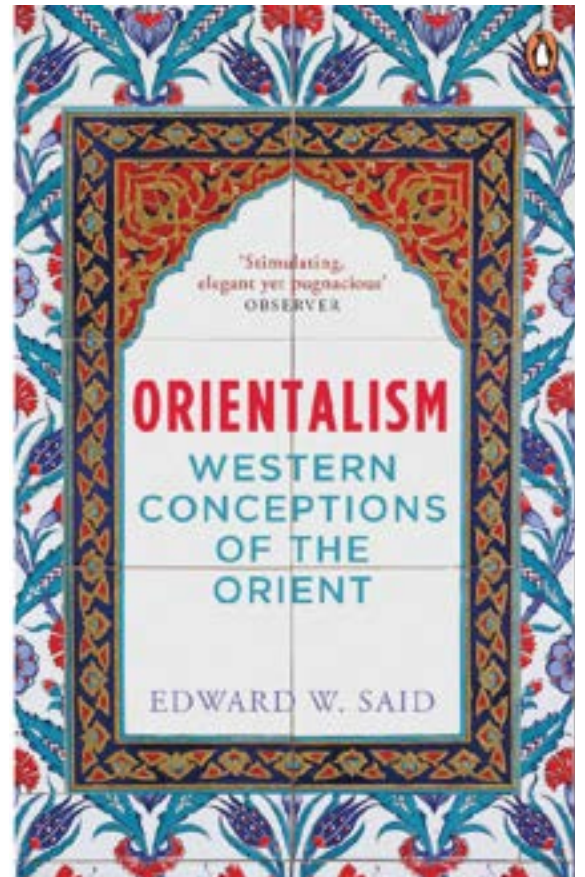
Studying Active Volcanoes with Chiara Petrone

Volcanic eruptions are exciting and spectacular displays of nature's incredible power, but they present serious danger to the approximately 800 million people who live within 100 km of an active volcano. Dr Chiara Petrone is the head of the Volcanology Group at London's Natural History Museum. In this masterclass she will talk about her work studying active and highly explosive volcanoes such as Popocatepetl, Stromboli and Mt. Etna, using rocks emitted during volcanic eruptions to understand the hidden processes inside the volcano.

Thursday 21st November - 3.30pm - S5

The Post-Colonial Gospel: Edward Said's *Orientalism* with Jon Stubbings

Palestinian-American academic Edward Said's seminal work of 'Post-colonial' studies – *Orientalism* (1978) – set out to show the existence of subtle Eurocentric prejudice against Arab-Islamic peoples and their culture. His polemic identified both romanticised and hostile images of Asia and the Middle East which he argued have implicitly justified the colonial ambitions of European powers and the U.S. The theory of 'Orientalism' can now be applied to the academic study of 'Eastern' languages and religions, as well as to 'Western' representations of the 'East' in literature, art and music. This masterclass will aim to explore these ideas from their origins up to the present day.



Monday 25th November - 3.30pm - S5



Using Circular Economics in Kimchee Production with Rebecca Ghim

In this masterclass Rebecca Ghim - entrepreneur and founder of vegan, zero-waste Kimchee business 'The Ferm' - will talk about the circular economic model she employs in order to make her Kimchee (traditional Korean pickled and fermented foods) from commonly discarded by-products which she collects from large farms. The goal is to make her business sustainable, to promote good health, and to help grow a more widespread circular economy within the UK's food systems - making it the antithesis of the 'throw away economy' model which dominates much food production at the present.

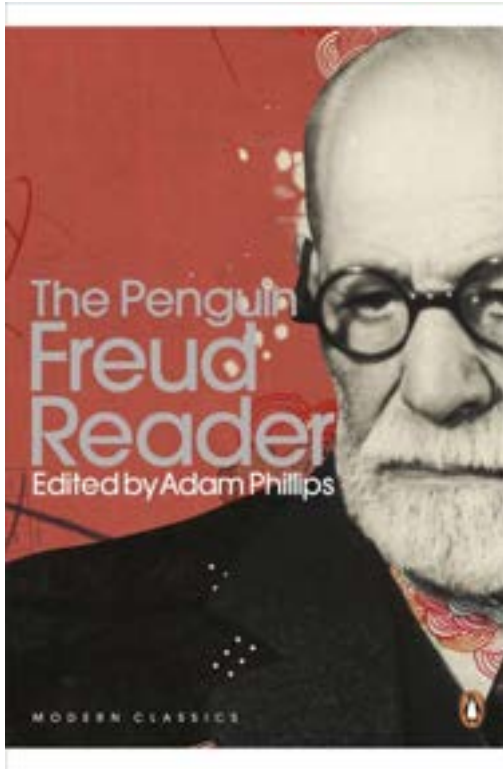
Thursday 28th November - 3.30pm - S5

The Role of Religion in the 21st Century with Chine McDonald

Chine McDonald is a journalist, author, broadcaster and director of the religion and society think tank THEOS. In this session she will discuss her views on the relevance and need for religion in a country which is seemingly becoming more and more secular and materialist. Should religion be private or does it still have a place in the public square? Is there a God 'shaped-hole' in the human psyche? Do other ideologies (e.g. political) rush in to fill the gap? How do we negotiate religious difference and diversity - both between Jews, Christians, Muslims and others - and within those religions from liberal/progressive to conservative interpretations?



Friday 29th November - 11:20am - S5



Freud and Psychoanalysis with Adam Phillips

Adam Phillips is an eminent psychoanalytic psychotherapist, essayist and literary critic - the author of over 20 books and the editor of many more; since 2003 he has been the general editor of the new Penguin Modern Classics translations of Sigmund Freud. In this talk he will introduce the ideas and extraordinary influence of Freud on the science of psychoanalysis and psychotherapy that he founded and assess his significance for the history of ideas in general.

Please note that this session is in the enrichment time slot on Friday morning - but all are welcome to attend.

Monday 2nd December - 3.30pm - S5

My Life as a Writer with Zadie Smith

Zadie Smith is an internationally renowned author and essayist who exploded onto the literary scene at the start of the new millennium with her bestselling and critically acclaimed novel *White Teeth*. Over the succeeding 24 years she has published many more novels, including most recently *The Fraud*, a historical novel set in the 19th Century. In this masterclass she will talk about the books and authors who have inspired both her fictional and non-fiction writing - as well as answering your questions about her work - so if you haven't read any of her books or essays yet, get started ASAP!



Thursday 5th December - 3.30pm - S5



History and Culture in the Horn of Africa - Lessons from my Heritage with Sada Mire

Dr Sada Mire spent her childhood in Somalia, before moving to Sweden - she now lives in the UK where she is Associate Professor of Heritage Studies at the UCL Institute of Archaeology. In this talk she will argue that a confident knowledge of the past, informed by the study of History and Archaeology, is essential - particularly in places like the Horn of Africa, which have been blighted by conflict and civil war in recent years. Sada will talk about her research and fieldwork projects in Somalia and her belief that lasting peace in the region must be based on cultural and historical understanding.

Monday 9th December - 3.30pm - S5

The future of Solar Energy with Jenny Nelson

Jenny Nelson is a Royal Society Research Professor based in the Physics Department at Imperial College London where she researches the Physics of Solar Cells; specifically the structure-property relationships in molecular and hybrid semiconductor materials and how these relationships influence the mechanisms of solar energy conversion. In this talk she will discuss some of these technicalities of her research, as well as the wider implications for generating solar energy in the future.





THE CAMDEN
SCHOOL FOR GIRLS
SIXTH FORM