

From: How To Academy <john.gordon@howtoacademy.com>

To: j <jeevacation@gmail.com>

Subject: How To: Culture - Literature, Film, Photography, History, Music, Politics, Philosophy and Nordic Thrillers.

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How to: Culture

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For addicts of The Bridge, the socially awkward Swedish sleuth with the fast car and the leather trousers is the real case to be solved. Who is Saga Norén? Is she really modeled on a small goat? Why does she appeal to audiences everywhere? And who is Sofia Helin, who plays Saga? What was the inspiration behind the Malmo detective, how did she get inside the skin of such a complex character, and where can we buy her long flowing coat?

For one night only, Sofia Helin will discuss the view from The Bridge with Mariella Frostrop.



LITERATURE



27.09.2014 - 28.09.2014

Daytime Event, 10:00am-5:00pm both days

how to: Read Tolstoy
with Rosamund Bartlett

“If life could write, it would write like Tolstoy” wrote Isaac Babel. Universally regarded as the greatest writer of Russian fiction, Leo Tolstoy is the only author with two works regularly featuring in lists of the top ten novels of all time. This weekend course, led by Rosamund Bartlett, biographer and translator of Tolstoy, invites you to immerse yourself in both of them. We will explore the whole of Tolstoy’s long career as a prose writer, but the focus will be on War and Peace and Anna Karenina, the novels which represent the summit of his creative achievement, and rank amongst the greatest...

[Read more and book.](#)



04.10.2014

Weekend Event, 10am-5pm

how to: Read Ulysses
with Colin MacCabe

Ulysses uses one day in the life of Dublin to reflect on the whole of Western culture and society. We invite you to spend a one day in your life reflecting on Ulysses, the most influential, and difficult, novel ever written. Under the guidance of Colin MacCabe, one of the world's leading Joyce experts, you will enter into the world of Dublin on June 16th 1904 chapter by chapter, and hour by hour.

You will also look at the contexts of Ulysses: the Dublin of the Gaelic revival; pre-First World War Trieste; Zurich as a haven from...

[Read more and book.](#)



22.10.2014

Evening Event, 6:30pm-7:45pm

how to: Tennessee Williams: Mad Pilgrimage of the Flesh

with John Lahr

When *The Glass Menagerie* opened on 31 March 1945, it was greeted with rapturous acclaim and twenty-four standing ovations: Tennessee Williams spoke to a new America, liberated from years of wartime hardship. A homosexual, alcoholic, drug-addicted genius, Williams was raised in Mississippi, the son of a neurotic Southern belle and a hard-drinking travelling shoe-salesman. The most autobiographical of twentieth century playwrights, 'everything in his life', said Elia Kazan, 'is in his plays, and everything in his plays is in his life'....

[Read more and book.](#)



PHILOSOPHY & POLITICS



16.10.2014

Evening Event, 6:30pm-8:30pm

how to: A Bluffer's Guide to Politics
with Mary Ann Sieghart

Who's going to win the next election? Will Nigel Farage kipper the Tories? What do the two Eds really think of each other? Will the mansion tax happen? Our Bluffer's Guide to Politics will give you enough material to get you through the trickiest of political conversations. Find out about the policies, the personalities and the gossip with our insider's tour of Westminster.

Mary Ann Sieghart has spent nearly 30 years writing about politics for The Times, The Economist, The Independent and The Guardian and...

[Read more and book.](#)



23.10.2014

Evening Event, 6:30pm-7:50pm

how to: An Evening with Michael Sandel
with Michael J. Sandel

This is an unmissable opportunity to hear the world famous philosopher Michael Sandel address the outstanding question of our age: **how do we want to live together?**

He has been called 'the most effective communicator of ideas' in English, our most 'relevant living philosopher', a 'genius', a humanitarian, who can has taken philosophy into the global public domain and empowered audiences worldwide to participate in the highest quality of debate. His Harvard 'Justice' course has become legendary. In Britain, BBC R4 audiences will know him as The Public Philosopher....

[Read more and book.](#)



FILMS AND PHOTOGRAPHY



20.09.2014 - 21.09.2014,

01.11.2014 - 02.11.2014

Weekend Event, 10:00am-5:00pm both days

**how to: Shoot the Light. A Weekend Photography
Masterclass**

with Clive Frost

A late Summer photography course for those who want to take their cameras on location.

This is a course with a difference, aimed at beginners and enthusiasts as well as those considering photography as a profession. Held over two weekends in September and November, with October devoted to working on a group project, entitled 'Autumn', which will then be printed as a photo book. You will be able to decide if you wish to...

[Read more and book.](#)



01.11.2014 - 02.11.2014

Weekend Event, 10:00am - 6:00pm both days

how to: Make a Film in a Weekend
with Bartek Dziadosz

Impossible? Not if you attend one of these ingeniously thorough training courses. At 10am on Saturday you will learn how to switch on the camera, and by 6pm next day you will be in a cinema seat watching your own three-minute short on the big screen.

A weekend course to introduce you to all aspects of film-making, from turning ideas into a script, planning the production process, operating the camera and discovering the joys of editing. You will learn...

Repeated for the third time due to popular demand.

[Read more and book.](#)



HISTORY



07.10.2014

Evening Event, 6:30pm-7:45pm

how to: Understand Lawrence of Arabia
with Anthony Sattin

Who was the mysterious young archeologist who became known as Lawrence of Arabia? And why did he, one hundred years ago, burn the first manuscript of his great epic, Seven Pillars of Wisdom? What was the story he wanted to conceal from the world?

In what promises to be a riveting event, the acclaimed biographer and travel writer, Anthony Sattin, will uncover the truth about T E Lawrence. To celebrate the launch of his much anticipated new book, Sattin will discuss the secret behind Lawrence's birth, his tortuous relationship with his dominant...

[Read more and book.](#)



06.11.2014

Evening Event 6.30pm - 7.45pm

how to: The English and their History
with Robert Tombs

This talk on the history of the English by the renowned historian Robert Tombs will offer a radical new view of England and the formation of its identity, shaped as much by what it has chosen to remember as by what it has chosen to forget.

Coinciding with the publication of Robert Tombs' groundbreaking new book *The English and their History*, Tombs' original approach shows how in language, history, literature, art and later cinema the English have been shaped by the stories and images that make up its collective memory....

[Read more and book.](#)



11.11.2014

Evening Event, 6:30pm-7:45pm

how to: Think About Central Europe
with Simon Winder

The Shadow of the Habsburg Empire a Century after Franz Ferdinand's assassination.

The killing of Archduke Franz Ferdinand, heir to the Habsburg Empire, was the 'original sin' of the modern era – the trigger for a catastrophic sequence of decisions which wrecked Europe – with the aftershocks felt until at least the ending of the Cold War. Why was the Habsburg Empire so important to Europe's existence and to its intellectual life? – the home of psychoanalysis, Mahler and Zionism; but also the home to authoritarianism, Hitler and virulent anti-Semitism. In this wide-ranging talk...

[Read more and book.](#)



MUSIC



18.09.2014

Evening Event, 7:00pm-8:30pm

how to: Jazz – Ellington and Monk

with David Ogilvy, Dorian Ford

An evening of live music and talk with David Ogilvy and Dorian Ford on the music of Duke Ellington and Thelonius Monk.

Combining live examples, video footage, and recordings of their work, we will explore the great leaps made by these two great pianists and composers, and look at the traditions they drew from.

We will also look at how they influenced not only their contemporaries, but also musicians in other genres particularly in the 'European' tradition in the 20th century.

[Read more and book.](#)



AND for something completely different



25.10.2014

Weekend Event, 10:00am-12:55pm

**how to: Crosswords, croissants, genius, and coffee
(Saturday Morning)**

with Mephisto (Tim Moorey)

Here's the solution to that Saturday morning problem: why not solve the weekend crossword with the man who set it? We'll provide coffee and croissants at a private studio in Notting Hill, Mephisto will be on hand to give his expert tuition, so all you need to do is get up on time. While we don't recommend this 3 hour morning session for complete beginners, it's the perfect opportunity for both nervous novices and experienced old-timers to improve their technique in a comfortable, convivial, and companionable setting. Begin the weekend at the top of your game.

[Read more and book.](#)



If there's a course you'd like to take which isn't currently included in our programme, email us with the details of what you'd like us to organise and if there's sufficient demand, we will contact our extensive network of distinguished teachers, lecturers and writers to arrange a course tailored to your needs.



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