

BUILDING CONFIDENCE, INTEGRITY & EXCELLENCE



SIR WILLIAM
PERKINS'S
SCHOOL



ACADEMIC AMBITION



www.swps.org.uk



Academic Ambition Seminars

At SWPS we want to stretch and challenge all of our students. Therefore we hold a series of seminars after school, which seek to inform, provoke, stretch and challenge our intellectually ambitious students.

The seminars are open to all SWPS students, though Academic Scholars are expected to attend some, if not all, of these sessions.

These one hour sessions are led by the Head and introduce students to new ideas in philosophy and science, great texts from the western canon, as well as wider historical and political trends and theories.



The seminars are intellectually demanding but both fascinating and exciting; they are based on what university courses are like and so will give a flavour of what to expect. Indeed we hope that our students will come away from these sessions more inspired to read and think more deeply.

PREVIOUS SEMINARS

TOPICS

Moby Dick - the greatest American novel?

What is Hate Speech?

Cultural Relativism - is nothing really wrong or right?

AI - problem or solution for the future?

The Freedom to Dissent: the politics of John Milton

Pride - Dante's sin in Purgatory

Don Giovanni - introduction to Mozart's Opera (part 1)

The ancient world of Delphi and Olympia

Pere Goriot - Balzac's masterpiece

The Waiting Room - Dante's Purgatory

Introduction to Plato's Dialogues

Meaning in Einstein's Philosophical World

Is science nothing but classical empiricism?

Where are the classical liberals?

Christian environmental ethics

The Law and Euthanasia

Samuel Beckett - Waiting for Godot

Purgatory: the waiting room for bliss

Can your values ever be facts?

What is the Philosophy of Science?

Who was John Milton?

Introduction to Anthropology

Why Read *War and Peace*?

How to make an Egyptian Mummy

Abandon Hope - the Divine Comedy

Karl Popper's Brilliant Idea

Can we have values without religion?

King David and Solomon - did they exist?

All you need to know about Obelisks

The culture of capitalism

Les Liaison Dangereuses - a modern warning

How do we know right from wrong?

Logical Positivism

Socrates - who?

Why is Georg Buchner important?

The Final Circles of Hell in Dante's Inferno





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