# The Black Death

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Start date</strong></th>
<th>18 October 2013</th>
<th><strong>End date</strong></th>
<th>20 October 2013</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Venue</strong></td>
<td>Madingley Hall</td>
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<td><strong>Tutor</strong></td>
<td>Dr Rosemary Horrox</td>
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<td><strong>Course code</strong></td>
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**For further information on this course, please contact**
Linda Fisher, Academic Programme Manager on 01223 746218
Sandy Haylock, Programme Administrator on 01223 746227

**To book**
See: [www.ice.cam.ac.uk](http://www.ice.cam.ac.uk) or telephone 01223 746262

**Tutor biography**
Rosemary Horrox MA PhD FRHistS, Fellow, Director of Studies in History and Admissions Tutor (Arts) of Fitzwilliam College; Director of Studies in History of St Edmund's College.
Course Programme:

Friday 18 October 2013
Please plan to arrive between 16:30 and 18:30. You can meet other course members in the bar which opens at 18:15. Tea and Coffee making facilities are available in the study bedrooms.

19:00 Dinner
20:30 – 22:00 Introduction - the nature of the disease
22:00 Terrace bar open for informal discussion

Saturday 19 October 2013

08:00 Breakfast
09:00 – 10:30 Before 1348
10:30 Coffee
11:00 – 12:30 The impact of the first outbreak
13:00 Lunch
14:00 Free
16:00 Tea
16:30 – 18:00 Contemporary explanations: medical & scientific
19:00 Dinner
20:30 – 22:00 Contemporary explanations: religious & moral
22:00 Terrace bar open for informal discussion

Sunday 20 October 2013

08:00 Breakfast
09:00 – 10:30 Later outbreaks and the cumulative effects
10:30 Coffee
11:00 – 12:30 A World turned upside down?
12:45 Lunch

The course will disperse after lunch
Course syllabus

Aims:
The course will provide an overview of the impact of the Black Death on England in the 14th century and of its longer term consequences. Students will be introduced to current debates on the extent and timing of the changes brought by the demographic collapse and to the more wide-ranging question of whether the plague brought the "transformation of the west".

Content:
The course will set the scene for discussion of the plague and its impact by exploring the economic and demographic trends of the previous century. There will be full discussion of contemporary reaction (popular and intellectual) to this unparalleled disaster. The short, middle and long term consequences of the demographic collapse will be explored. The emphasis throughout will be on England but material will also be drawn from elsewhere in Europe.

Presentation of the course:
Will be by lecture and class discussion.

Outcomes:
As a result of the course, within the constraints of the time available, students should be able to:

• Understand the economic and social developments of c1300-c1500;

• Review current debates about the plague’s impact and the evidence upon which they are based.
## Reading and resources list

Listed below are a number of texts that might be of interest for future reference, but do not need to be bought (or consulted) for the course.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Publisher and Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rosemary Horrox</td>
<td><em>The Black Death</em></td>
<td>A volume of contemporary sources in translation. 1994 Manchester University Press</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paul Slack</td>
<td><em>Plague: a very short introduction</em></td>
<td>Just out (2012) – a very readable account of plague across history</td>
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<tr>
<td>Philip Ziegler</td>
<td><em>The Black Death</em></td>
<td>Consistently in print since its first publication in the 1960s: a useful survey of events but old-fashioned in its discussion of the consequences</td>
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**Note** Students of the Institute of Continuing Education are entitled to 20% discount on books published by Cambridge University Press (CUP) which are purchased at the Press bookshop, 1 Trinity Street, Cambridge (Mon-Sat 9am – 5:30pm, Sun 11am – 5pm). A letter or email confirming acceptance on to a current Institute course should be taken as evidence of enrolment.

*Information correct as of January 2013*