

Creative Writing

This course explores the act and culture of creative writing. It takes a student-centred approach to creative writing, while offering a wide range of strategies to teach you how to develop as a writer. Its emphasis is practical, with workshops and activities designed to strengthen and improve your writing skills. You will have the opportunity to discuss your creative writing – fiction, non-fiction, poetry, plays and more – in regular workshops with a group of peers and professional writers associated with the creative writing field.

These workshops will be combined with:

- a programme of readings, both on site and in venues across the city, by well-known writers; and
- visits to literary events and festivals.

Creative Writing consists of the following modules:

- Autobiography: Using a time line, remembering using the senses, remembering places
- Poetry
- Prose, Verse and Drama
- Screenwriting
- Fiction: Crime fiction, science fiction and life-writing.
- Writing your novel: Creativity and Craft

Programme Aims and Learning Outcomes

Aims

- To equip students with the knowledge, understanding and practice of creative writing through a series of writing exercises and to introduce them to a set of creative skills and techniques suitable to this practice;
- To develop a range of subject-specific and transferable skills that are based upon independent, critical and creative thinking, and to provide practical support in the development of employability skills.
- To establish a communicative and supportive workshop environment where students will share their work in progress, giving and receiving constructive criticism.
- To impart enthusiasm for, and understanding of, the subject that informs future choices, including careers, further study and life long learning.

Learning Outcomes

On completion of this course students should:

- be familiar with a variety of aspects of writer's craft and demonstrate this familiarity in the giving of careful feedback to peers during workshop, in the reader-diary and in their own writing;
- have created a portfolio of at least 1500 words of their own creative writing in addition to an author's note of at least 400 words, tracing the course of their progress and changing perspectives during the program;

- have submitted a poem or short story of their own to a UK based or other poetry/short fiction journal;
- have read and discussed a selection of work by at least 5 different published writers and responded to this selection in workshop discussion and in writing in a reader-diary of 1000 words minimum, in which there is evidence of a developing critical methodology, integrating their various reading/writing experiences over the summer into their own writing projects.

Teaching and learning strategies

The course is delivered through a multidisciplinary programme consisting of:

- i. Formal lectures/workshop, seminar and small group sessions
- ii. Independent writing sessions