

## MA PROFESSIONAL WRITING AT FALMOUTH

---

WELCOME TO MA PROFESSIONAL WRITING AT FALMOUTH.

I'd like to take this opportunity to welcome you to MA Professional Writing at Falmouth. The team is looking forward to spending the year with what promises to be a lively and stimulating group of students.

### **Your offer**

Please remember that if you have been made a conditional offer to study at Falmouth, your place is subject to meeting those conditions. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact our Admissions team on 01326 213730 or [admissions@falmouth.ac.uk](mailto:admissions@falmouth.ac.uk).

### **First week of term**

Your first day of attendance will be **Monday 19 September 2016**. Please report to **The Writers' Room, School of Writing and Journalism, Penryn Campus** at **10am**.

You can download a copy of the [Penryn Campus map](#) from the Contact page of our website [here](#).

This will be an opportunity to meet the course team and your fellow students, and we will also be giving you details of the course requirements.

During the first week, you will participate in a five day introduction to the course, with a creative group project that will provide a chance to get to know each other. After that, we will work to the normal timetable.

On arrival you will be given a Student Handbook, which includes full details of all aspects of the course and Falmouth procedures. Meanwhile, please see link below for MyTimetable.

### **MyTimetable**

<https://mytimetable.falmouth.ac.uk/> available from 1 September 2016

This is the link to MyTimetable, your online academic calendar which shows all scheduled learning activities and your course timetable. It will be available from 1 September 2016, however, timetables can be subject to change. To keep up to date, we recommend that you export the feed to your chosen device (mobile, tablet, laptop or desktop). An induction will be offered on the use of MyTimetable during freshers' week. Students will have access to their individual student timetables, where appropriate, once they have completed their online enrolment and IT induction.

### **Pre-course preparation**

#### **Reading reflectively**

#### **Optional**

It should go without saying, but you cannot hope to develop as a writer without reading both voraciously and reflectively.

If you are interested in a particular genre of fiction or non-fiction, we would urge you to read work by a range of successful authors working in that area. You probably won't need us to tell you who these are, but if in doubt, try browsing the 'Categories' section of online book stores. Of course, there is no need to limit your reading to bestsellers, but it is certainly useful to be aware of what publishers are likely to be looking out for.

If you are interested in writing for film and television, then you should be reading as many successful scripts and screenplays as you can. Many are available for free online. You should also be watching films, television dramas and online dramas. The broader your knowledge and understanding of film and television, the more it will inform your ability to write screenplays.

We would strongly recommend that you start keeping a reading diary, if you do not already do so. This is an excellent way to crystallise your thoughts about what works, or not, in a particular piece of writing, in terms of story, structure, style, characterisation and so on. The point is not to write an exhaustive review of everything you read, but to jot down a few notes about what you see as the most interesting/successful/problematic aspects.

It is also a good idea to start building your knowledge and understanding of the media and publishing industries by reading a variety of print and online publications. Again, the exact nature of your reading will depend partly on your interests, but below is a selection of resources that are free online or available in the Falmouth University Library:

- A quality newspaper every day. Approximately £2 to buy a physical copy, depending on preference.
- The Media and Books sections of the Guardian, New York Times and Huffington Post.
- Books on the BBC [www.bbc.co.uk/tv/seasons/books/](http://www.bbc.co.uk/tv/seasons/books/).
- Broadcast and/or Variety.
- Industry publications such as *The Bookseller*. These may be available in your local library. Also look at [www.brandrepublic.com](http://www.brandrepublic.com) for business writing news and [www.mashable.com](http://www.mashable.com) for social media news.
- Follow 'Quietroom' and 'The Writer' on social media.
- Matthew Stibbe's 'Bad Language' blog.
- <https://26.org.uk/> is a lively network that brings together people who work with words for a living, as copywriters, web content managers, editors and in many other roles.
- Our book industry stories and course news. Follow us on Twitter @falwriting.

#### **Tuition fees (per year)**

2016-17 full-time UK/EU: £6,500

2016-17 full-time International: £15,000

#### **During your course**

##### **Materials and equipment list and costs**

##### **Optional**

While there are computer and printing resources on campus, you may find it useful to have access to a computer away from the campus. Prices vary but can range from around £129.99 depending on specification and choice.

### **Reading list and costs**

#### **Essential**

- You should also have a good dictionary (*Collins or Chambers*). Available from £1.99.
- A good thesaurus. Available from £3.99.
- Vogler, C., *The writer's journey*. RRP £5.90.
- Yorke, J., *Into the woods: how stories work and why we tell them*. RRP £6.99.
- Leith, S, *You talkin' to me? Rhetoric from Aristotle to Obama*. RRP £8.99.

### **Study trips and costs**

#### **Optional**

There will be an optional trip to the London Book Fair on 14-16 March 2017. Students are required to organise their own transport and accommodation. Approximate costs may be:

- Train fare Falmouth to London return, approximately £60 - £100, depending on when booked.
- Accommodation in London: hotels are approximately £100 per night.
- Admission to LBF is free to students.

### **Enrolment and Student Terms & Conditions**

You will receive an email two weeks prior to the start of term with details of how to enrol online. All students must enrol online before the first day of term in order to be officially registered as a student of Falmouth University. If you plan to receive an undergraduate student loan, you must enrol to have your money released to you.

As part of your enrolment, you will be required to agree to and comply with the University's Student Terms & Conditions. These Terms & Conditions are important and we encourage you to read them carefully, prior to enrolling online. They can be found on our Regulations, Policies and Procedures web page under 'Student Terms & Conditions' [here](#).

We know that there's a lot to do to prepare before the start of your course. If you have any questions at all, please don't hesitate to call our Admissions Team for advice on 01326 213730 or email [admissions@falmouth.ac.uk](mailto:admissions@falmouth.ac.uk).

If you would like to download and print a copy of this email, please go to [www.falmouth.ac.uk/new-students/welcome-letters](http://www.falmouth.ac.uk/new-students/welcome-letters).

Finally, we wish you an enjoyable and creative time before the course starts and we look forward to seeing you in September.

Yours sincerely

**Niamh Downing**

Head of English & Writing

**Falmouth University**  
Penryn Campus, Penryn, Cornwall TR10 9FE