

## MA PROFESSIONAL WRITING

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Dear

Welcome to MA Professional Writing at Falmouth.

We're getting in touch with some important information about your course that will help you as you prepare to join us.

At the end of this letter, you will find a list of equipment that you should bring with you, as well as any other costs that you might incur throughout your course that are not covered by your student loan.

We've also included some suggested reading. You will have access to all the reading resources from the library when you arrive on campus, but if you're looking forward to getting stuck in, this is a good place to start.

Your academic experience will be predominantly in person with some courses using some digital resources to support your learning. To engage in the digital learning activity, although you will be able to access IT suites on campus, you may find it beneficial to have a laptop to access the platforms and tools we use. You will be provided with free access to the Microsoft Office suite, (including Word, Excel and PowerPoint) while you study at Falmouth.

If you are eligible for a loan from Student Finance and have not yet applied, please do so immediately to ensure the loan is approved before you enrol. Once you enrol you are liable for the tuition fees. You can find more information from the Student Loans Company at: [gov.uk/government/organisations/student-loans-company](https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/student-loans-company) If you are paying for your tuition yourself please check out [falmouth.ac.uk/study/tuition-fees](https://falmouth.ac.uk/study/tuition-fees). Advice on managing your finances whilst studying can be found on the University's website here: [falmouth.ac.uk/study/student-funding/how-much-does-it-cost](https://falmouth.ac.uk/study/student-funding/how-much-does-it-cost)

In the coming weeks, you can join our Step into Falmouth programme, designed to provide advice and guidance to help you to settle into university life. This programme includes a range of informative and supportive videos you can view at a time that suits you, followed by live online events in August where you can meet our staff, current and new students. More information can be found at [falmouth.ac.uk/experience/new-students/step-into-falmouth](https://falmouth.ac.uk/experience/new-students/step-into-falmouth)

Over the next few weeks, we'll email you more important information about your course and life at Falmouth. If you're going to be away or out of contact, make sure you ask someone to check your emails and reply on your behalf.

We know there is a lot to think about before you start postgraduate study at university. So, we're here to help. If you have any questions, just get in touch with Applicant Services on +44(0)1326 213730, use LiveChat on our website or email [applicantsservices@falmouth.ac.uk](mailto:applicantsservices@falmouth.ac.uk)

# FALMOUTH UNIVERSITY

Finally, we wish you an enjoyable few weeks before the start of term and we're looking forward to welcoming you to Falmouth in September.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Luke Thompson

Course Leader, MA Professional Writing  
Luke.thompson@falmouth.ac.uk

## Getting started

### Your offer

If you have a conditional offer, your place is subject to meeting those conditions. This means we're waiting to receive your results or some more information before your place can be finalised. You can see these conditions using the Falmouth [Applicant Portal](#)

If you need to ask us anything about your offer, get in touch with our Applicant Services team on +44(0)1326 213730, use LiveChat on our website or email [applicantsservices@falmouth.ac.uk](mailto:applicantsservices@falmouth.ac.uk)

### Enrolment and Student Terms & Conditions

You'll get an email two weeks before the start of term telling you how to enrol online. You'll need to enrol before the first day of term to officially register as a student of Falmouth University and receive your undergraduate student loan.

When you enrol, you'll need 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, before enrolling. You can find them under 'Student Terms & Conditions' on our website [www.falmouth.ac.uk/student-regulations](http://www.falmouth.ac.uk/student-regulations)

### Tuition fees (per year)

2024-2025 full-time UK: £9,200

2024-2025 full-time International: £17,950

### Term dates

Term dates can be found at [falmouth.ac.uk/experience/term-dates/term-dates-2024-25](http://falmouth.ac.uk/experience/term-dates/term-dates-2024-25)  
Study Block 1 starts on Monday 23 September for postgraduate students.

### Your timetable

Your academic timetable shows all scheduled learning activities and your course timetable. It will be available from 9 September. After you've enrolled, you can view it via the Student Portal at [falmouth.myday.cloud/](http://falmouth.myday.cloud/) or the Falmouth University App. You can download the app by searching the Google Play Store or Apple Store. It will also be accessible at [mytimetable.falmouth.ac.uk](http://mytimetable.falmouth.ac.uk).

After you have enrolled, your timetable will show you where you need to go and when on Monday 23 September and throughout the week.

### Student Support

We know the prospect of starting postgraduate study can feel overwhelming, but we're here to support you every step of the way. You can find an overview of the support available to you once you get here [falmouth.ac.uk/experience/support](http://falmouth.ac.uk/experience/support)

## Pre-course preparation

The following titles will help prepare you for the core modules on the MA Professional Writing. There will be further reading week by week but these will introduce you to some key concepts and approaches.

### Making a Living 1: Professional Contexts

- Brown, Brene, *Daring Greatly* Penguin Life, 2015 (£5.89)
- Shukla, Nikesh, *Your Story Matters*, Bluebird, 2023 (£7.99 )
- Quinn, Catherine, *No Contacts, No Problem* , Bloomsbury, 2010 (£16.55)

### Telling Good Stories

- Prose, Francine, 2006. *Reading Like a Writer* (£11.09)
- Wood, James., 2010. *How Fiction Works* (£7.99)
- Copley, Paul, 2014 *Narrative* (free online via the library)
- Yorke, J., 2014. *Into the woods: how stories work and why we tell them* (£9.85).

### Creative Writing Careers: Building a Portfolio

- Gutkind, Lee, 2012. *You Can't Make This Stuff Up* (£5.36-£9.09).
- Rentzenbrink, Cathy, 2023. *Write it All Down* (£9.99)
- Mullan, John. 2006. *How Novels Work* (£7.99)
- Allesandra, Pilar, 2018 *The Coffee Break Screenwriter*, £16.99

### Making a Living 2: Writing for Business

- Simmons, John, 2022. *We, Me, Them & It: How to write powerfully for business* (£9.99)
- Hicks, W.; Adams, S. Gilbert, H. and Holmes, T., 2008. *Writing for journalists* (£10.56)
- Shaw, Mark, 2012. *Copywriting: successful writing for design, advertising and marketing* (£15.57)

### General reading

- A quality newspaper.
- The Media and Books sections of the *Guardian* and *New York Times*, the *London Review of Books*, *Times Literary Supplement*, etc.
- There are lots of good literary podcasts to follow, giving current information across disciplines and fields. You might like to try *The Copywriter Club*, *Script Apart*, *NPR's Book of the Day* and some of the *New York Times* podcasts for a start.
- Industry publications such as *The Bookseller*. These may be available in your local library. When you arrive at Falmouth you will be able to log in to *The Bookseller* using your Falmouth account information.
- The Writers' & Artists' Yearbook is an established space for up to date writing and publishing advice. They have a physical book and this online platform: <https://www.writersandartists.co.uk/>
- For writing news and opportunities specific to the South West take a look at Literature Works and consider signing up to their newsletter: <https://literatureworks.org.uk/>
- The National Association of Writers in Education (NAWE) is a useful resource for funding opportunities, jobs and events <https://www.nawe.co.uk/>

- For book industry stories and course news follow us on Twitter and Instagram @falwriting, and read the excellent content on [www.falwriting.com](http://www.falwriting.com), produced by our students.

Much of the reading you will be asked to do during the MA will be available online as eBooks, as scanned material, or from the library. Tutors will supply short readings for seminars, and you will be expected to research writing in your own field of interest and to bring recommendations to class.

Meanwhile, you should be reading as widely as possible in different forms and genres but particularly in the genre you are most interested in writing yourself.

Finally, and most importantly, think about what you would like to write. If you have a story, start developing it. If you have ideas for features, think about how you might research them. If you have an area of expertise, think about how you might incorporate it into your work. The MA will go by quickly, full of exciting new information. Our aim is to help you develop a practical writing life and a set of professional habits that will continue beyond the course. It's best to begin that now!

### Course equipment and costs

Your academic experience will be predominantly in person with some courses using some digital resources to support your learning. To engage in the digital learning activity, although you will be able to access IT suites on campus, you may find it beneficial to have a laptop to access the platforms and tools we use. You will be provided with free access to the Microsoft Office suite, (including Word, Excel and PowerPoint) while you study at Falmouth.

#### **Highly Recommended - the 'Live @ AMATA Pass'**

AMATA is Falmouth University's arts centre, offering a diverse year-round programme of exciting performances and productions, from monthly comedy nights to fantastic live music, trailblazing new theatre and dance.

The programme complements our portfolio of degrees and enables students to experience high quality, contemporary performances on their doorstep.

Students can purchase a one year Live @ AMATA Pass which offers five tickets for £25. This represents a 50% reduction on our standard student ticket price of £10.

You will be able to view the programme at [falmouth.ac.uk/arts-centre](https://falmouth.ac.uk/arts-centre) from August 2024. However, the Live @ AMATA Pass is available now to book at [falmouth.ac.uk/arts-centre/visit/tickets#live-pass](https://falmouth.ac.uk/arts-centre/visit/tickets#live-pass)

Please note: If a parent or guardian is purchasing on behalf of a Falmouth University student, the account should be set up in the student's name, using their email address.