



Online Creative Writing Courses

spark your imagination & fuel your writing

Feeding the Flame

Creative Writing for Writers

10 credit points at SCQF Level 7

Thank you for your interest in **Blaze** – an innovative project from the Centre for Lifelong Learning at the University of Strathclyde. The Centre has been offering a wide choice of classroom-based writing classes to adults for many years and Blaze allows us to take our teaching to a wider audience. This factsheet aims to answer questions you may have and to provide you with information on what the course includes and its expected outcomes.

COURSE CONTENT

Feeding the Flame is for intermediate and advanced writers who want to give and receive feedback in a supportive and motivating environment. It is about writing and writing well – about finding your voice and pushing yourself as a writer. You will be encouraged to explore your creativity and to further develop your writing skills in a series of assignments that build towards the submission of a final piece of writing.

You should be happy to post your work, to receive comments back on it, and to read and comment on other people's writing via an online forum. These are used for class discussion and there will be two messenger-style chats for real-time contact with the tutor and other students. During the course you can upload/post **a maximum of 5000 words** for feedback from the tutor and other students. You will be split into groups for this so that the amount of feedback required is never overwhelming. All writing posted during the course should be new writing.

The course is mainly geared towards those who are writing fiction, though would also be relevant to writers of non-fiction.

IT SKILLS

A level of comfort on computers is encouraged. You should be familiar with navigating websites, and using email and attachments. A sense of adventure and a willingness to learn will always make up for experience you have not yet attained. The course is run on the virtual learning environment (VLE) called Myplace (Moodle). Full instructions for using Myplace are given and the tutor will be able to help you if you have any questions.

ACCREDITATION

Each Blaze course carries academic credit awarded by the University of Strathclyde. This credit is expressed in terms of university credit points that are offered at Level 7 of the Scottish Credit Qualifications Framework (SCQF). Level 7 is equal to first year undergraduate teaching. The SCQF model is designed to make it easier for students to understand the level at which they are studying and to compare courses between learning providers. **Please note that accreditation is optional and if you wish to opt out of having your work formally assessed, you can do so.** If you wish to find out more about our accredited programme, please visit

www.strath.ac.uk/studywithus/centreforlifelonglearning/studentsupport/openstudiescertificate/

Feeding the Flame carries 10 credit points and is an online version of class OS617 *Taking Your Creative Writing Further 1* which can also be taken as a classroom-based course within the Centre. The optional assessment for this class is as follows:

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| Assessment A | one shorter piece of writing of up to 1500 words (30%) |
| Assessment B | one longer piece of writing of up to 2000 words (50%) |
| Assessment C | the submission of a reflective logbook outlining experiences/observations (20%) |

Each assignment should demonstrate an understanding and use of the exercises and guides employed throughout the course. You will receive a 'Satisfactory' or 'Unsatisfactory' mark against each piece of work accompanied by constructive written feedback from the course tutor.

TIME

You should plan to set aside time in the first week to familiarise yourself with the site and its resources. You should also plan to spend **at least 2 hours online each week** exploring, posting or commenting on people's work. **Your writing time will be in addition to this.** We have found that online courses do not take less time; they just allow you to be more flexible with what you do and when you do it. Please plan for this.

ENROLMENT

Enrolment (including payment) may be made through our online booking system MyCLL which can be accessed at <http://mycll@strath.ac.uk>. All further correspondence will be conducted via email. Please note that places on the courses are limited to 12 students and it is helpful if you can enrol at least one week in advance of the start date (subject to availability) to allow time for usernames and passwords to be issued.

GETTING STARTED

Feeding the Flame is offered three times per year in in October, January and April. Immediately prior to the course start date you will be sent a welcome note via email followed by a separate email detailing your username, password and how to get started.

CONTACT

If you have any further questions or require more information, please contact 0141 548 2116 or email learn-cll@strath.ac.uk