

The UK's European university

University of  
**Kent**



# SHORT COURSES SUMMER 2018

Introduction to postgraduate study

Tonbridge

# INTRODUCTION

## **Kent's new postgraduate-level courses at its centre in Tonbridge are designed for anyone with the passion and motivation to develop their knowledge at an advanced level in a small group environment.**

These courses do not award academic credits; they can be studied for pleasure, or as preparation and an indication of your suitability for applying for a full postgraduate qualification programme.

For summer 2018, we are delighted to be able to offer courses in Art History, Creative Writing and Literature.

The short courses take place at the University of Kent's Tonbridge Centre, which is just a few minutes' walk from Tonbridge railway station.

## **University of Kent's Tonbridge Centre**

The University's Tonbridge Centre has been established for over 30 years and is a small and friendly centre dedicated to part-time study. The Centre provides high-quality teaching in a supportive environment to students of all ages and from a variety of backgrounds. It also focuses on supporting the continuing professional development needs of the business community in the region.

## **Excellent study resources**

Students taking one of these postgraduate-level short courses are eligible to receive a Kent student card. This gives access to student resources and services for the duration of the course; applicants wishing to use this opportunity should have some computer literacy and be familiar with using email as a minimum. Tonbridge staff are happy to discuss this aspect individually with applicants. Some technical help is also available from University staff during the course. Course study material may be provided electronically and/or in paper form.

Accessing the additional resources provides an opportunity for maximum participation in the course and is indicative of what is available if you are considering applying for a full postgraduate programme. There is also an optional assignment opportunity at the end of each course for marking and feedback, which may be used as a sample piece of work to support an application for a full postgraduate qualification programme.

Resources at the Centre include a library with computers for students' use; these are linked to the University's network and are equipped for word processing, email and internet access. Students also have access to the University's other libraries which contain well over a million books, periodicals,

pamphlets, audio tapes, videos, DVDs, slides and microfilms, some of which can be delivered to Tonbridge via a regular University courier service.

All students at Tonbridge are encouraged to use the support services offered by the Student Learning Advisory Service, and also have access to specialist advice such as that offered by our award-winning Careers and Employability Service, and the Student Support and Wellbeing teams.

## **Inspirational teaching**

Kent is known for its teaching style; our academics have an outstanding ability to pass on their passion for study and debate. Staff are approachable and accessible. Through direct contact with them, you are intellectually challenged and encouraged to broaden your horizons.

Kent was awarded gold in the Teaching Excellence Framework (TEF). Based on the evidence available, the TEF Panel judged that the University of Kent delivers consistently outstanding teaching, learning and outcomes for its students. It is of the highest quality found in the UK. This gold award recognises our consistently outstanding teaching.

# ART HISTORY

**Often the works of art that we find most valuable and interesting we find troubling, threatening, disgusting, awe-inspiring (even creepy) and weird. This course examines four such emotional responses to art 'beyond beauty': the sublime, the uncanny, disgust and wonder.**

## **Beyond Beauty: The Weird and the Wonderful in Art Practice and Theory**

As theorised by Edmund Burke in the 18th century, the sublime is a response to objects in the world which are threatening and overwhelming, such as vast mountain ranges, volcanoes, and raging seas. The sublime of nature was central to the project of Romanticism; while into the 20th and 21st century, technology and industry have created new forms of sublime experience.

Since Freud published his now famous essay on the topic, 'the uncanny' has become a popular trope in art criticism and theory. Many contemporary artist and filmmakers have been interested in evoking the eerie, creepy, shuddery feeling of the uncanny in their work – from Ron Mueck's hyperrealist polychrome sculptures, to 'paraconceptual' artist Susan Hiller's multimedia installations, to David Lynch's nightmarish visions of American suburbia.

Traditionally disgust has been considered to be improper to art. More recently, the philosopher Carolyn Korsmeyer has made a positive case for disgust in the context of aesthetic appreciation – that even this 'base', visceral emotion can afford complex and valuable insights into important aspects of what it means to be human.

We all experience the emotion of wonder – be it in response to the natural world, scientific discoveries, sacred objects, ancient artefacts, or modern and contemporary works of art, such as Rothko's paintings and James Turrell's light installations. Could it be, as one philosopher, Jesse Prinz, has recently suggested, that wonder is constitutive of all aesthetic appreciation?

### **Course content**

- Smaller class group
- This course allows you to spend time exploring the subject in greater depth, among like-minded people
- You examine the role of emotions in aesthetic experience
- You explore a range of art practices from the 18th century to the present day
- You develop an understanding of traditional and contemporary theoretical approaches to art and aesthetics

**Week 1:** The Sublime

**Week 2:** The Uncanny

**Week 3:** Disgust

**Week 4:** Wonder

### **Suggested reading**

The suggested reading list is available upon request prior to the course. The tutor will supply the relevant online links and other material at the first class.

### **Course tutor**

**Dr Mark Windsor** has a PhD in History and Philosophy of Art from the University of Kent and an MA in Art History from the University of Sussex. He has taught in the History of Art Department at Kent at BA and MA level, and in the Department of Philosophy at UCL. His research specialisms are in aesthetics, philosophy of art, and contemporary art history and theory.

### **Dates and location**

Wednesdays, 20, 27 June; 4, 11 July  
11am-1pm  
University Centre, Tonbridge

### **Fee**

£135

### **How to apply**

Online booking is preferred, please visit [www.kent.ac.uk/tonbridge](http://www.kent.ac.uk/tonbridge)

### **Further information**

University of Kent Tonbridge Centre,  
Avebury Avenue,  
Tonbridge  
TN9 1TG  
T: 01732 352316  
E: [tonbridgeadmin@kent.ac.uk](mailto:tonbridgeadmin@kent.ac.uk)

# CREATIVE WRITING

**A creative writing course for those with an interest in history, this short course considers key approaches to writing historical fiction and encourages you to write exciting, contemporary material.**

## Writing Historical Fiction

Whether you are already writing your own historical piece, or interested in starting one, this short course encourages you to take control of your own work and write exciting, contemporary material. Designed for ambitious writers of fiction, Writing Historical Fiction offers an introduction to the study of creative writing at postgraduate level.

The three, full-day sessions are divided between discussion of techniques in contemporary writing, writing exercises and workshops. Each of the days focuses on a different historical novel and its approach to the form. We consider extracts from these works and how the techniques discovered can be applied to our own writing.

Over the course you are introduced to the format of creative writing study at postgraduate level, and encouraged to think more deeply about both your own writing and your reading. You also have the opportunity to receive feedback on your own writing from the tutor and other participants.

## Course content

- Workshop and seminar-style classes
- Smaller class groups
- This course allows you to spend time exploring what makes great writing in greater depth, among like-minded people. You have the opportunity to complete writing exercises and to give, and receive, feedback
- There are written and reading activities between sessions, including the opportunity to read and reflect on the work of your fellow students

The following texts underpin the three weeks of the course:

### Week 1

- J L Carr, *A Month in the Country*

### Week 2

- Hilary Mantel, *Wolf Hall*

### Week 3

- Javier Cercas, *Soldiers of Salmis*

## Course tutor

**Dr Alex Martin-Carey** is a writer and theatre director. She is an associate lecturer in the Schools of English and Arts at the University of Kent, where she completed a PhD in Creative Writing. She also manages outreach projects for the University across humanities subjects. Alex has written short stories and pieces for stage and film, and her debut novel *The Greater Thief* was published in 2012.

## Dates and location

Saturdays, 12 May; 9, 30 June  
10am-4pm  
University Centre, Tonbridge

## Fee

£250

## How to apply

Online booking is preferred, please visit [www.kent.ac.uk/tonbridge](http://www.kent.ac.uk/tonbridge)

## Further information

University of Kent Tonbridge Centre,  
Avebury Avenue,  
Tonbridge  
TN9 1TG  
T: 01732 352316  
E: [tonbridgeadmin@kent.ac.uk](mailto:tonbridgeadmin@kent.ac.uk)

# LITERATURE

***“Women if you want to realize yourselves – you are on the eve of a devastating psychological upheaval – all your pet illusions must be unmasked – the lies of centuries have got to go – are you prepared for the Wrench–?”***

**Mina Loy,**  
*Feminist Manifesto*

## **100 Years of Women’s Suffrage: Celebrating a Century of British Feminist Literature**

Composed in 1914, Loy’s *Feminist Manifesto* forecasts the ‘Wrench’ of 20th-century feminist investigation. Taking its inspiration from the centenary of British women’s right to vote, this short course commemorates the diversity of literature written by women in the UK. Exposing you to a range of genres, we explore the psychological, social and political forces at play in modern British women’s writing.

Each core text represents a significant moment in British feminist literature of the 20th century. Placing well-known literary figures, such as Virginia Woolf and Zadie Smith, alongside lesser-known writers such as Mina Loy, we trace the evolving articulations of gender. How did British writers perceive and construct new versions of womanhood?

How did such constructions operate through different literary forms?

Starting with Loy’s radical proclamations of independence, we discover how feminist ideals mutate and collide, culminating in our reading of Sara Ahmed’s celebrated 2017 text, *Living a Feminist Life*.

### **Course content**

- Workshop and seminar-style classes
- Smaller class groups
- You learn to assess a variety of different types of written materials and their relation to political and social forms, over the course of seminar discussions
- You gain an understanding of the different historical and literary trajectories of British feminist writers
- You develop an ability to apply close reading techniques to a range of literary texts and to make comparisons between them
- You develop approaches to concepts such as gender and intersectionality, and gain a grounding in feminist theory

The course examines the following texts:

#### **Week 1**

Mina Loy, *Feminist Manifesto* and *Songs to Joannes*

#### **Week 2**

Virginia Woolf, *A Room of One’s Own*

#### **Week 3**

Jean Rhys, *Wide Sargasso Sea*

#### **Week 4**

Zadie Smith, *NW*

#### **Week 5**

Sara Ahmed, *Living a Feminist Life*

### **Course tutor**

**Dr Claire Hurley** is an associate lecturer in the School of English at the University of Kent, having previously taught at Queen Mary and Goldsmiths, University of London, where she was nominated for Teacher of the Year. She has published on the writers Adrienne Rich and Gertrude Stein and her most recent research interests include performance and embodiment in black British poetry, as well as experimental pedagogies in seminar teaching.

### **Dates and location**

Fridays, 4, 11, 18, 25 May; 1 June  
10.30am-12.30pm  
University Centre, Tonbridge

### **Fee**

£170

### **How to apply**

Online booking is preferred, please visit [www.kent.ac.uk/tonbridge](http://www.kent.ac.uk/tonbridge)

### **Further information**

University of Kent Tonbridge Centre,  
Avebury Avenue,  
Tonbridge  
TN9 1TG  
T: 01732 352316  
E: [tonbridgeadmin@kent.ac.uk](mailto:tonbridgeadmin@kent.ac.uk)

# GENERAL INFORMATION

## Kent: the UK's European university

Kent is known as the UK's European university. Our two main UK campuses at Canterbury and Medway and our part-time centre in Tonbridge are located in the south-east of England, close to London. We also have study locations in Athens, Brussels, Paris and Rome.

We have a diverse, cosmopolitan population with 157 nationalities represented and 40% of our academic staff come from overseas. We also have strong links with universities in Europe, and from Kent, you are about two hours away from Paris and Brussels by train.

## World-leading research

As a student at Kent, you are taught by leading academics, who produce research of international standing. Based on our excellent results in the most recent Research Excellence Framework, Kent was ranked in the top 20 for research intensity by the *Times Higher Education*, confirming our position as one of the UK's leading research-intensive universities.

## Strong academic community

At Kent, our postgraduate students are part of a thriving intellectual community that includes staff and students from all our locations. In addition to lectures, seminars and one-to-one supervisions, our students benefit from a rich and stimulating research culture.

## A global outlook

Kent has a great international reputation, attracting academic staff and students from around the world. Our academic schools are engaged in collaborative research with universities worldwide. We offer a range of opportunities to study abroad and an approach that is truly global.

## The Graduate School

After completing the taster short course, should you successfully apply to study at postgraduate level, you have the support of the Graduate School, which promotes your academic interests. The Graduate School also co-ordinates the Researcher Development Programme and the Global Skills Award, and facilitates cross-disciplinary interaction and social networking.

## Funding

Kent provides a variety of financial support opportunities for postgraduate students on a full-qualification programme. These range from research studentships, location-specific funding, sport and music scholarships, and funding specifically for overseas fee-paying students. For further information, see [www.kent.ac.uk/pgfunding](http://www.kent.ac.uk/pgfunding)

If you are a UK mature student, you may be able to apply for government funding for either a full-time or part-time programme.

The amount you can receive depends on your family situation and the type of programme you are taking.

For details, please visit [www.gov.uk/mature-student-university-funding](http://www.gov.uk/mature-student-university-funding)

## Enhanced career prospects

At Kent, we want you to be in a good position to face the demands of a tough economic environment. During your studies, you acquire a high level of academic knowledge and specialist practical skills. We also help you to develop key transferable skills that are essential within the competitive world of work.

## Further information

For information about applying to Kent, or to order a copy of the *Graduate Prospectus*, please contact:  
Recruitment and Admissions Office, The Registry,  
University of Kent, Canterbury,  
Kent CT2 7NZ, UK  
T: +44 (0)1227 827272  
F: +44 (0)1227 827077  
[www.kent.ac.uk/pg](http://www.kent.ac.uk/pg)

## Visit us

The University holds Open Days and postgraduate recruitment events throughout the year at our other campuses. Please see [www.kent.ac.uk/visit](http://www.kent.ac.uk/visit) for details.





This brochure was produced in March 2018. The University of Kent makes every effort to ensure that the information contained in its publicity materials is fair and accurate and to provide educational services as described. However, the courses, services and other matters may be subject to change. For the most up-to-date information, see [www.kent.ac.uk/pg](http://www.kent.ac.uk/pg) Full details of our terms and conditions can be found at: [www.kent.ac.uk/termsandconditions](http://www.kent.ac.uk/termsandconditions)

For the University to operate efficiently, it needs to process information about you for administrative, academic and health and safety reasons. Any offer we make to you is subject to your consent to process such information and is a requirement in order for you to be registered as a student. All students must agree to abide by the University rules and regulations at: [www.kent.ac.uk/regulations](http://www.kent.ac.uk/regulations)

# CONTACT US

University Centre Tonbridge,  
Avebury Avenue,  
Tonbridge,  
Kent TN9 1TG

T: 01732 352316

E: [tonbridgeadmin@kent.ac.uk](mailto:tonbridgeadmin@kent.ac.uk)

For the latest information on our courses,  
please visit [www.kent.ac.uk/tonbridge](http://www.kent.ac.uk/tonbridge)