Get ready for BA(Hons) Creative and Professional Writing

We hope you're excited about starting in September at UWE Bristol – we're very much looking forward to welcoming you onto our **BA(Hons) Creative and Professional Writing** course.

We've provided some information below that will help you to prepare for starting with us. We look forward to meeting you.

Sean Daniels
Programme Leader

Before you start

We are looking forward to welcoming you in the week commencing 14 September for Starting Block and the beginning of your programme.

Starting Block will help you settle into university and to help you get to know your teaching team and course mates. We will help you find your way around, get used to our systems, and practice the skills you need to make a strong start. Look out for further emails and explore the Starting Block website with more details.

Your timetable will be available to you via MYUWE (login required) once you have started the enrolment process. Please visit the 'Understanding your teaching timetable' website to find out when your timetable will be published.

Preparing and arrival
You can find everything you need to know about enrolment, Starting Block and the start of teaching, on our Preparing and Arrival webpage. Take a look at our website to familiarise yourself with our facilities and services such as the library, study skills, academic support, health and wellbeing support and much more.

Enrolment
Once you have satisfied all admissions requirements, we'll send you your login details for our IT systems to enable you to activate your university email account. Once your account has been activated, you'll gain access to the MYUWE platform where you can enrol. Note that your login details for MYUWE are different to those used for the UWE Welcome website. Enrolment for September programmes will only be open from August onwards. You can find guidance and further information on our Enrolment website.

ID card - upload your photo now
We can only print your ID card if you have added your photo to MYUWE. To avoid delays, upload your photo as soon as you receive login details. For help, go to our student card guidance.

Engage with your programme

Start your learning
As you may already know, here in the UWE Bristol Creative and Professional Writing team we've been creating short videos, so that we can share some tips for creative writing and give you a taste of how different writers on our team approach their work. Each video contains a suggested activity - feel free to have a go at these before term starts:

- 'How do you create characters?' with novelist and non-fiction writer Katy Mahood.
- 'How do you pitch your story?' with screenwriter Sean Robert Daniels.
- 'How to find a story.' with novelist and children's writer Dr Dan Anthony

Read around your subject
A key skill which is required to achieve a high level of success within your chosen programme is the ability to think critically about key issues and practices. To help you to enhance these skills and be ready to engage with your studies, you should start to read and research around your subject before you arrive. Explore the Library web pages to see the wide range of resources available to you once you become a UWE Bristol student.

Here are some of our recommended titles for you to read, to be inspired by and to understand the scope of your degree programme:

- Barry, Lynda (2008): *What It Is*, Drawn & Quarterly, Toronto.
- Goldberg, Natalie (1986): *Writing Down the Bones: Freeing the Writer Within*, Shambhala Press, Boulder, Colarado.
- Kleon, Austin (2012): *Steal Like an Artist: 10 things nobody told you about being creative*, Workman, New York.
- King, Stephen (2010): *On Writing: A Memoir of the Craft*, Hodder & Stoughton, London.
- John Yorke (2014): *Into the Woods: How Stories Work and How We Tell Them*, Penguin, London.

See also:

www.theparisreview.org
The Paris Review, The Art of …… (Fiction, Nonfiction, Poetry, Screenwriting)
long-running series of interviews with writers on craft.

You can prepare for starting the course by reading and writing for pleasure as often as possible. Read whatever takes your fancy (fiction, non- fiction, graphic novels, plays, screenplays, memoirs, travel books, children's books, or anything else that appeals – you

choose!). As you read, pay close attention to what you like or don't like about the writing, and to how the writer has directed your attention or created effects. As for your own writing, any sort of regular writing (whether it's in a journal, or takes the form of fiction, non-fiction, poetry, script, or notes of ideas and observations) will be good preparation for the regular writing you'll be required to do on this course.

Connect with others
Nearer to the start of term you'll be invited to join a private Facebook group that's specifically for your year-group. In the meantime, do follow us on X if you'd like to: @UWECreativeWrit

Be prepared

Access support
Check the information on our Disability web pages so you know what you need to do. If you need any urgent additional mobility or other support to fully access all activities during your studies, contact me as your programme leader.

Get equipped
The University has computers on all our campuses for you to use during your studies. These provide access to our core digital learning tools and any specialist software required for your course. You may have scheduled sessions in computer labs or other specialist facilities, and you will be able to use open-access PCs for self-study.

You will benefit from a laptop, particularly if your access to on-campus facilities is limited. UWE Bristol licenses many specialist software packages for use on personal laptops for the duration of your course. If you're struggling to meet the financial demands of your course, please contact the Student Money Service team for advice and guidance.

See the UWE website for detailed information on choosing your IT equipment including recommended specifications. For this programme we recommend the **Core Specification**.

Applications used on the course work on **Windows and Mac** devices but not necessarily on tablets or Chromebooks.

International students
The Global Student Support Team offer information and advice to ensure you receive all the support you need to get the best from your time at UWE Bristol. They are here to help you to settle in when you first arrive at UWE Bristol and organise social events to help you to adapt to your new environment.

Who to contact if you have questions

For any questions about the course, please contact your Programme Leader:

Sean Daniels via email at Sean2.Daniels@uwe.ac.uk

Please note: this information has been provided on the assumption that you will meet the conditions of your offer and be eligible to take up your place.

Entry: September 2026 Last updated: Spring 2026