

Media & Communication and Creative Writing BA (HONS)

As part of the Network of Hope, Spurgeon's College is offering a range of combined BA honours degrees with Liverpool Hope University. The courses are designed and validated by Liverpool Hope University and taught by Liverpool Hope tutors. Face-to-face teaching will take place at Spurgeon's College, London, and the College will provide additional support for students enrolled there on a Network of Hope course. After three years of study, successful students will receive a degree from Liverpool Hope University, one of the UK's leading Universities.

Start date: October 2021 || Duration: Three years || Fees: £9,073 per year

Entry requirements: 96 Tariff points + English grade 4/C or above

Mode of application: UCAS institution code S57, course code 1L57



Attendance: Two evenings per week 6-9pm (one 3hr face-to-face teaching session and one 3 hr online teaching session) and four intensive Saturday sessions (10am – 2.30pm), plus independent study (approx. 18 hours per week).

Additional costs: You will need to consider the cost of your core textbooks which we estimate to be around £200. You will also require internet access and a laptop or PC to be able to access the online teaching and resources.

COURSE OVERVIEW

CREATIVE WRITING

Studying this Creative Writing course will give you the chance to experience the joys of crafting the written word. The degree focuses on developing you as a writer of poetry and prose (fiction and creative nonfiction), across the broad field of literature (poems, short stories, novels, reflective and critical essays). Professional writing - reviews, blogs and articles for different kinds of media - is also studied. Our focus on creativity and employability means you will be able to produce engaging, innovative and marketable texts.

By studying Creative Writing, you will be empowered with an enhanced command of your craft, increased confidence in expressing your thoughts and emotions, an understanding of the values that inform your writing practice, and the technical skillset to deliver your work to various audiences. You will develop a range of workplace skills to prepare for fulfilling careers.

MEDIA & COMMUNICATION

If you want an exciting career in the media but also want to understand how and why the media reports and represents the world in the ways it does, studying this course is the next step for you. Media and Communication provides you with an opportunity to closely study and analyse the ways in which the media industry shapes and is shaped by our world. This course is designed to help you become an industry leader equipped to take on the key task of working towards a more reliable and trustworthy media industry and cross-platform media environment.

Curriculum

Creative Writing

Year 1

The curriculum in year one is designed to develop confidence in your creativity and develop your writing skills across a range of literary and professional genres. These will include fiction, poetry, and types of professional writing such as reviews and blogs. You will be introduced to the importance of reading as a writer and encouraged to read widely and to think critically about contemporary writing and classic older texts. You will focus on core writing techniques such as description, narrative, metaphor, dialogue, and characterisation. You will also be encouraged to reflect on your development as a writer in order to nurture an imaginative and independent attitude to your work.

Year 2

The curriculum in year two builds on the core techniques learnt in year one, but now challenges you to engage more deeply with contemporary themes. You will be asked to consider important cultural and political concerns and to find creative and original responses to challenging subject matter. You will continue to write across and through a diverse range of genres such as short fiction, novel chapters, poetry, articles, reviews, blogs and opinion pieces. In the writing workshop, you will present your own work-in-progress and offer detailed critique of the writing of your fellow students.

Year 3

The curriculum in year three focuses your attention on a specialist literary genre such as prose fiction or poetry. In these seminars, you will work with leading writers in these genres and will be challenged to create work of a publishable standard. You will also explore professional writing opportunities and important topics such as working with an agent or editor, writing to commission, cross-art-form collaborations, writing for new media, and the business of working as a freelance writer. You will also undertake an independent academic research project in an area of creative writing of your choice.

Media & Communication

Year 1

Introduction to Media and Communication

You will look at how the media is used to exert or to challenge power in society, and develop a deeper understanding of the political and cultural changes associated with both digital and legacy media. You will explore the history of the media's development in Britain, from the printing press to the internet. Other topics studied include how news media organisations and journalists decide 'what is news'.

Year 2

Explorations in Media and Communication

Our second year develops your understanding of key media industry topics. You also explore how commercial, political and cultural pressures shape the work of the media in the digital era. Other topics studied include media industries, such as format television and digital media, and research methods. You will develop the research skills necessary to investigate key aspects of media and communication research.

Year 3

Advanced Studies in Media and Communication

Your final year gives you the opportunity to study media theories like those related to political communication and culture, gender and identity, and look at how the internet and digital developments are changing the media landscape and journalism.

Research Project

You complete a dissertation or research project on a topic of your choice with support from your tutor.