First Story - Institute of Continuing Education Tuition Fee Bursary Scheme

Postgraduate Certificate in Teaching Creative Writing – Tuition Fee Bursaries for 2019

How to Apply and Bursary Terms and Conditions

Are you interested in applying for a place on our new, one year, part-time Postgraduate Certificate in Teaching Creative Writing course starting in April 2019? Would you like help with funding your tuition fees?

First Story is a charity which works to improve literacy and foster creativity in young people through creative writing. The University of Cambridge Institute of Continuing Education (ICE), offers part-time courses in a wide range of disciplines.

ICE and First Story are committed to working with teachers and other professionals teaching creative writing in disadvantaged settings but realise that tuition fees are often a barrier to postgraduate study. We have collaborated to offer two, fifty percent tuition fee bursaries to support applicants for this exciting new Postgraduate Certificate in Teaching Creative Writing course which begins in April, 2019. (If you are awarded a bursary you would be responsible for paying the remaining fifty percent of the tuition fee.)

These new bursaries, supported by First Story, promote access and will ultimately benefit the schools, libraries and other community settings in which successful applicants work.

About the course

The Postgraduate Certificate in Teaching Creative Writing course will enable you to:

- develop your skills as a teacher of creative writing and strategies for your intended teaching context
- develop and/or extend your knowledge of the theories and practices of the teaching of creative writing
- develop your repertoire of teaching, course design and assessment methods appropriate to creative writing in your professional context
- develop a reflexive and critical awareness of your own teaching practice and to transmit what you have learned from your own experience of being a writer into a classroom setting.

Please note that this course does not lead to a formal teaching qualification (such as a PGCE).

Part-time study

This course has been designed to enable those with professional or personal commitments to study on a part-time basis. You will be required to attend three weekend teaching modules:
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Module 1: Friday 5th April 2019 - Sunday 7th April 2019
Module 2: Friday 28th June 2019 - Sunday 30th June 2019
Module 3: Friday 6th September - Sunday 8th September 2019

The weekends run from Friday evenings to Sunday afternoons.

Although this is a non-residential course, students requiring residential accommodation may be able to book bed and breakfast at Madingley Hall, the home of ICE, as availability permits.

Course fees

Full tuition fees: Home/EU students - £4000. Overseas students - £5,715.

Bursary tuition fees: tuition fees for successful bursary applicants will be half – i.e. £2,000 rather than £4,000 for home/EU students and £2,858 rather than £5,715 for overseas students.

Applicants will be responsible for paying the remaining £2,000 (Home/EU) or £2,858 (Overseas) themselves.

Are you eligible?

These bursaries are intended to enable teachers from all levels, librarians or other literary professionals working in deprived and/or disadvantaged settings to enrol on the Postgraduate Certificate in Teaching Creative Writing course starting in 2019 and for whom finance may be a barrier to part-time study.

You will preferably work in a state-funded setting such as a state school, public library, local authority, the NHS or HM Prisons Service and will be interested in using creative writing as a development tool within your field. We will also consider applicants from third-sector organisations and not-for-profit organisations.

- You must be at least 18 years old
- You should have a 2:1 honours degree (or overseas equivalent) and/or significant relevant professional experience when you apply.
- If you are a professional who is currently working with, or have previously been engaged with, a First Story programme you are welcome to apply for this new bursary scheme.
- Unless otherwise stated, teaching and assessment for ICE courses are in English. If your first language is not English, please refer to our Information for Applicants pages for further guidance.
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Please note that as we normally receive a greater number of applications than we have bursaries available, not all applications will be successful. You may only receive one bursary at a time.

If you are awarded a bursary, we will ask you to book your place on the course within two weeks of the date of notification in order to accept the bursary and confirm your place on the course. Unclaimed bursaries will be awarded to other applicants in the event of non-booking.

You will be required to pay an initial instalment in order to secure your place on the course. You will be notified of the process and any outstanding fees when the bursary is awarded.

Bursary awards are usually deducted from the last fee payment. Therefore, you would need to pay tuition fee instalments up to the first 50% before bursary fees are applied to your account.

Bursaries are repayable in full if a student does not complete the course, where the Institute considers that there are no significant mitigating circumstances.

The deadline for application to these bursaries is Monday 7 January 2019 and applicants will be informed of the outcome within three weeks of this date.

How to apply

If you wish to apply for a First Story - Institute of Continuing Education Bursary you must first apply online for a place on the course through the ICE application portal and additionally, then apply for a bursary through the online form on the ICE website.

You must submit your CV and a personal statement (up to 300 words), outlining your motivations for applying for the course and the bursary.

You should explain how your practice and learning from the course will benefit disadvantaged groups (for example, teaching children in schools with high levels of free school lunch provision, work in libraries based in deprived communities, etc.).

Applications for the course and the relevant bursaries are now open and will be received up to Monday 7 January 2019.

More information

You can find full details of the Postgraduate Certificate in Teaching Creative Writing and the First Story - Institute of Continuing Education Tuition Fee Bursary Scheme on the Institute of Continuing Education website.