

## Time to Write

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**Start date** 22 June 2018**End date** 25 June 2018**Venue** Madingley Hall  
Madingley  
Cambridge**Tutor** John Mole**Course code** 1718NRX063**Director of Programmes** Emma Jennings**For further information on this course, please contact** Public Programme Coordinator, Clare Kerr  
[clare.kerr@ice.cam.ac.uk](mailto:clare.kerr@ice.cam.ac.uk) or 01223 746237**To book** See: [www.ice.cam.ac.uk](http://www.ice.cam.ac.uk) or telephone 01223 746262

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### Tutor biography

**John Mole** is a poet, critic and jazz musician. He has been a recipient of the Gregory and Cholmondeley Awards for Poetry and the Signal Award for his collection for children *Boo to a Goose*, illustrated by his wife Mary Norman. As a broadcaster he has presented BBC Radio 4's *Poetry Please* and *Time for Verse* and, for Radio 3 he has compiled and presented *Poetry Now* as well as feature programmes about Robert Graves and Charles Hamilton Sorley. He has recorded for The Poetry Archive ( [www.poetryarchive.org](http://www.poetryarchive.org) ) on which he can be heard reading from his work. For many years, with Peter Scupham, he ran The Mandeville Press. He has written the libretto for a community opera, *Alban*, staged in St. Albans Cathedral in 2010, and his most recent collections are *The Point of Loss* (Enitharmon, 2011) and *Gestures and Counterpoints* ( Shoestring Press, 2017 )

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## Course programme

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### Friday

Please plan to arrive between 16:30 and 18:30. You can meet other course members in the bar which opens at 18:15. Tea and coffee making facilities are available in the study bedrooms.

19:00	Dinner
20:30 – 22:00	Distribution of hand-out (passages for discussion) followed by a writing exercise.
22:00	Terrace bar open for informal discussion

### Saturday

07:30	Breakfast
09:00 – 10:30	Brief explanation/demonstration of materials available as 'starters' for writing. Individual tutorials.
10:30	Coffee
11:00 – 12:30	Individual tutorials.
13:00	Lunch
14:00 – 16:00	Free
16:00 – 16:30	Tea
16:30 – 18:00	Brief meeting to discuss progress, followed by continuation of individual tutorials
18:00 – 18:30	Free
18:30 – 20:00	Dinner
20:00 – 21:30	'Facing the Blank Page': Discussion of hand-out material issued on Friday evening.
21:30	Terrace bar open for informal discussion

### Sunday

07:30	Breakfast
09:00 – 10:30	Writing exercise. Individual tutorials
10:30	Coffee
11:00 – 12:30	Individual tutorials

12:45	Lunch
14:00 – 16:00	Free
16:00 – 16:30	Tea
16:30 – 18:00	Individual tutorials
18:00 – 18:30	Free
18:30 – 20:00	Dinner
20:00 – 21:30	Reading of his own work by tutor, followed by a consideration of publishing opportunities
21:30	Terrace bar open for informal discussion

### **Monday**

07:30	Breakfast
09:00 – 10:30	Reading by course members of their work (either written on the course or brought with them).
10:30	Coffee
11:00 – 12:30	Continuation of reading (as above)
13:00	Lunch

**The course will disperse after lunch**

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## Course syllabus

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### Aims:

1. To develop and extend the skills and ability of the participants in the writing of poetry and/or prose.
2. To identify particular interests, strengths and weaknesses.
3. To focus on writing in progress and work towards its completion.
4. To encourage new work on the basis of this course.

### Content:

1. Individual and shared tutorials, with time for course members' own writing as well as group work and discussion.
2. Poetry and prose: a substantial hand-out will be provided, containing extracts of prose and poetry chosen for the light they shed on the creative process. Recordings of writers reading their own work may also be considered.
3. The tutor will provide a small library of material (books, photographs, literary magazines etc.) which members will be encouraged to borrow and make use of during the course.
4. On the final morning every course member will read from his/her work in a plenary session and receive constructive criticism from the group.

### Presentation of the course:

1. Two tutorials for each student. Help and criticism from the tutor.
2. Individual work and composition.
3. Group exercises and workshops directed by the tutor.
4. Reading and discussion of chosen extracts.

### Outcomes:

**As a result of the course, within the constraints of the time available, students should be able to:**

1. Demonstrate continued or growing confidence in their own writing.
2. Identify and define more closely their own strengths and themes.
3. Show an enhanced understanding of the writer's craft.
4. Bring this increased understanding to bear on the work of others, and broaden their knowledge by critical and creative reading.

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## Reading and resources list

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There is no reading and resource list. The tutor will bring a variety of publications (anthologies, magazines, art catalogues etc) for students to consult and borrow during the course. Hand-outs will be provided at the first session.

**Note** Students of the Institute of Continuing Education are entitled to 20% discount on books published by Cambridge University Press (CUP) which are purchased at the Press bookshop, 1 Trinity Street, Cambridge (Mon-Sat 9am – 5:30pm, Sun 11am – 5pm). A letter or email confirming acceptance on to a current Institute course should be taken as evidence of enrolment.

*Information correct as of:* 18 July 2017