

Exploring poetry through reading and writing

Date	4 January 2020	Time	10:00 – 16:45
Venue	Madingley Hall Madingley Cambridge		
Tutor	Elizabeth Speller	Course code	1920NDX210

Director of Academic Centres Dr Corinne Boz

For further information on this course, please contact Head of Academic Centre Administration
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To book See: www.ice.cam.ac.uk or telephone 01223 746 262

Tutor biography

Elizabeth's novels include *The Return of Captain John Emmett* (Virago, 2011 - Orange Book of the Month, Richard & Judy pick) and *At Break of Day* (Virago, 2014 - CNY State One Read 2015 in the US). They are published in eight countries. Her non-fiction includes *Following Hadrian* (Hodder/OUP US, 2004) and a memoir, *The Sunlight on the Garden* (Granta, 2007). She was short-listed for the Forward Prize for Poetry and provided the libretto for Michael Berkeley's work *Farewell*, written in memory of Sir Paul McCartney's wife Linda. She has taught at Cambridge, Bristol and Birmingham Universities. She was Royal Literary Fund Fellow at the University of Warwick and is currently completing a further novel for Virago. She teaches on the Certificate, Diploma and MSt Creative Writing programmes at ICE.

Course programme

09:30	Terrace bar open for pre-course tea/coffee
10:00 – 11:15	What is poetry? Does it have rules? Why do we write and read it? How can it make us feel? Where do we start? Reading poems from the hand-out (provided)
11:15	Coffee
11:45 – 13:00	Finding a voice to match a topic. Trains and boats and planes: the poetry of place, home, journeys and nostalgia.
13:00	
14:00 – 15:15	Lunch Poetry and colour. Poetry and music. Poetry and joy. See it. Hear it. Write it.
15:15	Tea
5:30 – 16:45	Inspiration. Emotion. Taking risks. Love poetry and elegies.
16:45	Day-school ends

Course syllabus

Aims:

To use published poetry to explore the possibilities of different forms.

To find inspiration and new techniques for producing our own work.

To feel confident in writing poetry or expanding the range of poetry we already write.

Content:

We will read a range of poems by very different poets in very different styles from formal to free verse. We will discuss these and what works for us as individuals and then experiment with ideas, language mood and metre, in our own writing.

Presentation of the course:

Depending on group interests and experience, we shall read, listen to recordings, discuss the experience of writing poetry and work on exercises to help each of us develop a unique poetic voice.

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

- Gain a wider appreciation of what poetry can offer a reader or a writer
- Consider what topics might lend themselves to being written about in poetry
- Feel confident in experimenting with new ideas and different ways of writing poetry

Reading and resources list

Listed below are texts that might be of interest should you wish to supplement your learning on the course. Any essential reading is marked with an asterisk *

Author	Title	Publisher and date
Paterson, Don and Nick Laird eds.	<i>The Zoo of the New: A Book of Exceptional Poems from Sappho to Paul Muldoon</i>	Particular Books, 2017

Website addresses

Additional information

Venue

Details of how to find Madingley Hall can be found on our website:

<http://www.ice.cam.ac.uk/who-we-are/how-to-find-the-institute>

Refreshments

Tea and coffee and lunch will be provided. If you have any specific dietary requirements or allergies and have not already advised us, please inform our Admissions Team on ice.admissions@ice.cam.ac.uk or +44 (0)1223 746262.

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: 17 May 2019