Course Overview

Tuition Fees and Funding

Fees for full-time students are £4,500 (Home & EU students) or £11,900 (International students). A variety of scholarships and bursaries may be available in any given year. You can find out more about these funding opportunities at: www.stir.ac.uk/scholarships.

Entrance Requirements

Normally, you’d need a minimum of a second-class honours degree (2.1 preferred) or equivalent.

However, applicants without these formal qualifications but with significant talent, and appropriate or relevant work/life experience are encouraged to apply; they will be admitted at the tutors’ discretion. Applicants must supply a sample of their creative work: up to ten pages of prose (fiction or creative nonfiction) or a portfolio of poems. A half-and-half mix is also acceptable.

Dissertation

The MLitt also requires students to write a substantial body of original creative writing. For fiction and non-fiction writers, this might be an extract from a novel or non-fiction work, or a collection of short stories. It should run to c15,000 words, with a short, supporting, critical, essay. Poets will write a collection of 12-15 poems, again with a short supporting critical essay. Dissertation writing usually takes place over the summer, and supervision is offered.

Timetable

There is flexibility in the timetable because we try to accommodate students who have jobs and other commitments. A full-time student can expect two-two hour classes per week.

Modules

Semester 1: Throughout the year the core Modules are the Writers’ Workshops, where students present work-in-progress, and receive help and advice from their peers and tutors. Semester One also offers a choice of specialist taught modules in poetry or prose.

Semester 2: Along with the Writers’ Workshops we offer ‘The Writing Life’, with sessions on memory, screen-writing etc: ‘Research skills’ we hear from visiting agents, performers, artists etc.

Contact Information

Dr Liam Bell, Course Director
Telephone: UK +44 (0) 1786 467506
Email: liam.bell@stir.ac.uk
http://stir.ac.uk/gf

Key Teaching Staff

Prof. Kathleen Jamie is a pre-eminent poet and non-fiction writer. Her latest collection ‘The Bonniest Companie’ won the Saltire Scottish Book of the Year 2016. Her essay, collected in Findings and Sightlines, are considered landmarks of nature writing.

Liam Murray Bell’s first novel, ‘So It Is’ was shortlisted for Scottish Book of the Year 2013. His new novel ‘The Busker’ was named as a Scottish Book Trust Pick for 2014.

Kevin MacNeil is an award-winning poet, novelist, screenwriter and playwright. His first poetry collection won a major European prize and his latest novel, ‘The Brilliant and Forever’ was shortlisted for the Scottish Fiction Book of the Year.

Chris Powici is a prize-winning poet and hugely experienced teacher. Erstwhile editor of ‘Northwords Now’, his latest collection is ‘This Weight of Light’.

University courses, services and procedures are continually reviewed, enhanced and revised, and this may result in some changes between the time of publication and the date when the student enters the University. Where any changes will affect you, the University will keep you informed. The University of Stirling is a charity registered in Scotland, number SC 011159.

Photography: For a list of photographers who have contributed to the University of Stirling photo library, contact: marketing@stir.ac.uk
This publication can be made available in different formats. Please contact Student Recruitment and Admissions for further information: recruitment@stir.ac.uk
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The MLitt in Creative Writing is both a reading course and a writing course: we expect you to read widely as part of your development as a writer. The seminars provide an opportunity to explore the work of outstanding poets and prose writers. The workshops provide opportunity to share your own work, receive constructive criticism and hone your writing skills.

For further information on course content visit: http://stir.ac.uk/gf

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FIVE REASONS WHY YOU SHOULD CHOOSE THIS COURSE

1. At the heart of Scotland with the Ochil Hills on the doorstep and an important collection of modern art and sculpture on the campus, Stirling is the perfect location to spend a year exploring and developing your writing.

2. You’ll study with established writers whose work has won numerous awards in poetry, fiction and non-fiction.

3. We have links and friendships throughout the literary world, for example, with publishers and agents, with the Scottish Poetry Library, the Centre for Publishing Studies, the Bloody Scotland Crime Writing Festival and the Edinburgh Book Festival. We host important literary events, and intimate ones too.

4. You’ll come together in a ready-made community of like-minded people. Our groups are small – everyone matters. Great friendships are forged.

5. As members of the wider university, you’ll be part of a thriving community with a rich research culture, a new library, a theatre and a gym – and its own loch.

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