

Writing Workshops with Nicholas Corder

Please note that these are just some ideas. If you would like to contact me to discuss other ideas, please do...

Starting to Write

Convinced that you have the ability to write, but unsure how to get started? If that sounds like you, then this course might be just the thing to give you a little momentum.

We will look at where to find ideas, how to develop those ideas into something worthwhile, planning to write, what to write and when to write it, how to revise your work and where to sell what you have written.

Gain the confidence to make the most of your talents in a supportive atmosphere.

Short Stories

What makes a great short story?

We'll look at all the ingredients that go into writing great short stories and have a go at doing it ourselves.

Short stories are often seen as an easy way to break into fiction writing. This isn't always true, but at least they're quicker to write than a complete novel! As a writer, you can cut your teeth on short stories. Many of the techniques you develop can later be put to use in longer works.

We will look at creating convincing characters, plots for short stories, openings and endings, structure, description, dialogue, viewpoint, narrative voice, the markets for short stories, and presenting your work professionally,

Writing Your Own Life Story

They say that everyone has a book in them. This practical course will help you to put down on paper your memories, reflections and ideas.

We will cover such topics as jogging your memory, drafting your work and improving your writing using fiction writers' techniques. If you've always wished your ancestors had written about their lives, now is the chance to do something for your family's historical records for generations to come.

Writing Articles for Magazines

Writing articles for magazines is a great way of breaking into print and can be personally and financially rewarding.

This course is a practical introduction, full of help and advice and with plenty of opportunities for you to try out your own ideas. We will look at where and how to find ideas, how to write them up and where to sell your work.

Writing a Non-Fiction Book

Although many people would love to write a novel, you stand a much greater chance of being published with a non-fiction book. This course will take you through all the stages – from idea to outline, from approaching a publisher with a fully-fledged proposal to sitting down and writing. There will be plenty of handouts, exercises and information plus a few anecdotes from my own experience.

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Writing Plays for Children and Amateur Groups

One of the most satisfying projects for a writer is to have a play staged. What better way to start than with a play aimed at schools, youth groups or the amateur stage?

We will learn how to develop story-lines, plots, characters and dialogue from the kernel of an idea to the full-blown production. How to weave in tension, suspense, conflict and atmosphere. What technical tricks are available to you? What to do with your finished play.

Writing for Publication – How to Make Money from Writing

Many of us dream of making a fortune from the power of the pen. Although there are many authors who do make a great deal of money, the reality for most is a hard slog with limited rewards. This workshop looks at the various markets – magazines, small presses, poetry, non-fiction and fiction books, and other outlets for writing and will examine practical approaches to selling your work. You may not get rich, but there's no reason why you can't be making a little bit of extra cash on the side.

Kick-Start Your Creative Writing

Ideas are the life-blood of the writer. The more ideas you have, the more you can write.

This course will show you different ways in which you can come up with new ideas for stories, plays and poems, time after time. In a course chock-full of examples, exercises, hints and tips, you should find yourself bursting with fresh ideas that you want to get down on paper.

We'll cover how to beat writers' block, how to generate ideas, how to create original and inspiring characters, how to create convincing settings, how to come up with great storylines, and plotting when your mind's gone blank.

Writing Humour

The British are renowned for their sense of humour. If you're able to write humorously, you are much more likely to sell your writing.

This course will look at how humour works, where to find good ideas, creating comic characters, writing humorous dialogue, creative exercises for developing comedy ideas and some of the markets for comedy.

Writers' Retreat

Have you always wanted to write, but never found the time? Or perhaps you're burning to write something, but you're not sure what? Or maybe you're part way through that book that everyone has inside them and have got stuck.

Writers' retreat is an opportunity for you to share your writing with other like-minded souls. There'll be a mixture of workshops, 1-to-1 tutorials and classroom exercises, plus plenty of time for you to do some of your own writing.

The course will be supportive, fun and helpful. The length of the course can be tailored to suit individual needs.

The course is suitable for those who are new to writing, as well as those who are a little more experienced.

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Don't forget that I have also written several books on the subject of writing, including:

- Writing Your Own Life Story, Straightforward Publications
- Successful Non-fiction Writing, Crowood
- Writing Good, Plain English, Emerald Publications

Workshops for Schools and Young People

If you want to get hold of me to discuss workshops for younger people, then please feel free to do so.