



UNIVERSITY OF
CAMBRIDGE

Professional and
Continuing Education



Undergraduate Prospectus

Part-time, online
qualifications

2026-27



Life
continues.
So does
learning.

Academic excellence, designed for adult learners

Professional and Continuing Education (PACE) is part of the University of Cambridge, opening Cambridge learning to adults at every stage of life through flexible, high-quality education that fits around work and other commitments. Our part-time and online courses are designed for adult learners and taught by expert tutors who are active in their fields. You'll learn in supportive, inclusive communities that encourage critical thinking, shared perspectives and academic confidence. Whether you're developing professionally, pursuing a personal interest or preparing for further study, we're here to help you achieve your goals and make Cambridge learning part of your lifelong journey.

Our learners

Our learners come from a wide range of backgrounds and life experiences. Some are studying at university level for the first time; others are returning after a break or building on previous study. Many balance learning alongside careers, caring responsibilities or other commitments.

What unites our learners is curiosity, motivation and a desire to progress. They join us to deepen subject knowledge, gain new skills, build confidence and open up new opportunities and become part of a diverse, global community with a shared commitment to learning.

At PACE, you're supported as an individual and encouraged to progress in a way that works for you.

Our mission

We support the University of Cambridge's commitment to lifelong learning by widening access to higher education. PACE provides an accessible route into the University for those beginning, returning to or continuing their academic journey.

We deliver this through:

- flexible, part-time and online study
- affordable routes into undergraduate education
- inclusive, supportive learning environments
- a strong focus on peer learning and academic community

Our courses are designed to be engaging, relevant and intellectually stimulating, supporting learners to thrive academically and professionally, at any stage of life.

About undergraduate study

Our online, part-time undergraduate courses are designed for adults who want to study alongside work and other commitments. They offer a flexible and supportive route into higher education, allowing you to build university-level knowledge over time.

You can study individual courses for personal interest or work towards a certificate, diploma or advanced diploma by completing credit-bearing courses. Many undergraduate awards are eligible for part-time student loans for learners living in England, and a range of funding options are available, including nine bursaries, helping to make Cambridge study more accessible.

With courses across the arts, humanities, sciences and professional disciplines, you can specialise in a subject or broaden your learning across areas. Studying online means you can join our global learning community from anywhere in the world.

Throughout your studies, you'll be supported by expert tutors and fellow learners, making it possible to progress with confidence, in a way that fits your life. If you're considering applying this year or planning for the future, our enrolment team is here to guide you through your options.



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- 48 **Social science**
- 49 Certificate in Sociology, Politics and Psychology
- 50 Certificate in International Relations
- 51 Diploma in International Relations



Learn with us at undergraduate level

Part-time, online study, designed for adult learners.

Our undergraduate courses offer a flexible and accessible route into the University of Cambridge. Delivered online and part-time, they are designed to fit around work, family and other commitments, allowing you to study from anywhere in the world while developing university-level knowledge and confidence.

Whether you're new to higher education, returning after a break or preparing for further academic study, our courses provide a strong foundation for professional growth, personal fulfilment and academic progression.

How you'll study

All undergraduate courses are taught in English and delivered online. Most learners typically study 15-20 hours per week, depending on the course. Learning combines structured teaching, guided independent study and active participation in a supportive academic community.

Learning with Cambridge

As a PACE undergraduate learner, you'll benefit from:

- teaching from leading Cambridge academics
- personalised, developmental feedback
- small-group learning that encourages discussion
- a diverse, global peer community

Our courses are academically rigorous, while remaining accessible and designed specifically for adult learners.

University of Cambridge alumni status

Learners who complete an undergraduate certificate or diploma gain University of Cambridge alumni status, with access to a global alumni network, exclusive events and benefits, career support, course concessions and CAM, the Cambridge alumni magazine.

Awards at a glance

- Certificate: Level 4 | 60 credits | part-time
- Diploma: Level 5 | 60 credits | part-time
- Advanced diploma: Level 6 | 60 or 120 credits | part-time, includes a research project

Qualifications and progression

All PACE undergraduate courses lead to University of Cambridge qualifications, recognised by employers and universities worldwide.

You can begin with a single course or work towards completing the undergraduate pathway of a certificate, diploma or advanced diploma, progressing from Level 4 to Level 6 within the UK's national higher education framework (FHEQ), equivalent to the stages of an undergraduate degree.

Credits can be built up over time and, subject to individual requirements, may be transferred to other institutions through the Credit Accumulation and Transfer Scheme (CATS).



A flexible route to undergraduate study

Explore subjects. Build confidence. Prepare for what comes next.

Our short courses offer Cambridge-level learning in flexible formats, helping you build confidence and academic skills before progressing to further study.

If you're not ready to commit to an undergraduate award, short courses offer a way to explore subjects and experience learning with us. Whether you're returning to education or considering a new direction, they provide a supportive starting point.

Short online courses

Our 7-week online courses provide an accessible way to study with Cambridge from anywhere in the world. With 100+ courses and multiple start dates, they're open to learners of all backgrounds and levels of prior study. You'll benefit from expert teaching, interactive feedback and an engaged peer community. On successful completion, you receive a certificate of participation and a digital badge.

Courses on global learning platforms

Through partnerships with global learning platforms including [edX](#) and [Coursera](#), we offer a selection of University of Cambridge courses to learners around the world. Taught by academics from Professional and Continuing Education, these courses range from standalone programmes to professional certificates and graduate-level MicroMasters, providing a flexible way to engage with Cambridge teaching wherever you are.

The University of Cambridge official International Summer Programme

Each summer, learners from across the globe join us in Cambridge for an immersive, in-person study experience. Choose from over 140 courses across 5 subject streams and build a one- to four-week programme taught in small groups by Cambridge academics.

Alongside academic study, lectures, cultural activities and social events offer the opportunity to experience Cambridge life and connect with an international community.

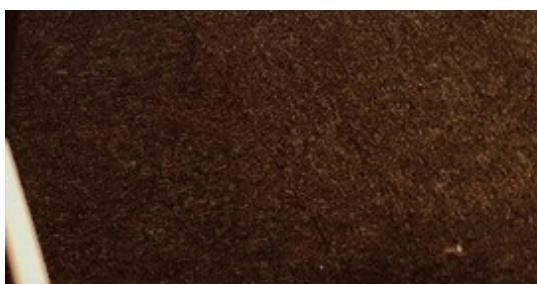
Weekend courses

Our weekend courses at Madingley Hall & Gardens offer focused, in-person learning over a single weekend. Ideal for busy professionals and lifelong learners, these courses provide an intensive introduction to a subject, drawing on the expertise of Cambridge tutors across the arts, humanities and global affairs.

After your course

Completing a course with us can support your next step, whether that's career development, further study or personal enrichment.

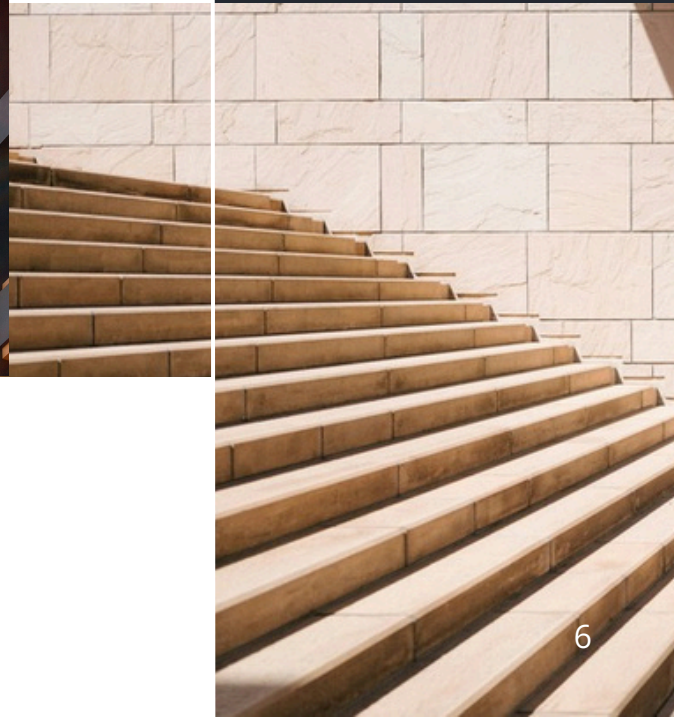
Our courses combine academic insight with practical application, helping you build confidence, capability and subject expertise. Many learners continue their studies with us, apply their learning professionally or explore new academic interests.



“The opportunity to learn from expert faculty and collaborate with peers from so many professional backgrounds was genuinely inspiring.”

Binita

Undergraduate Certificate in Strategic Business and Management



Financial support

Explore the concessions, bursaries and external funding options available to support your undergraduate studies.

We want to help make studying with us as accessible as possible and recognise that finances shouldn't stand in the way of your learning journey. We offer a range of financial support options to help reduce the cost of study and support undergraduate learners who might otherwise face financial barriers to participation.

Concessions

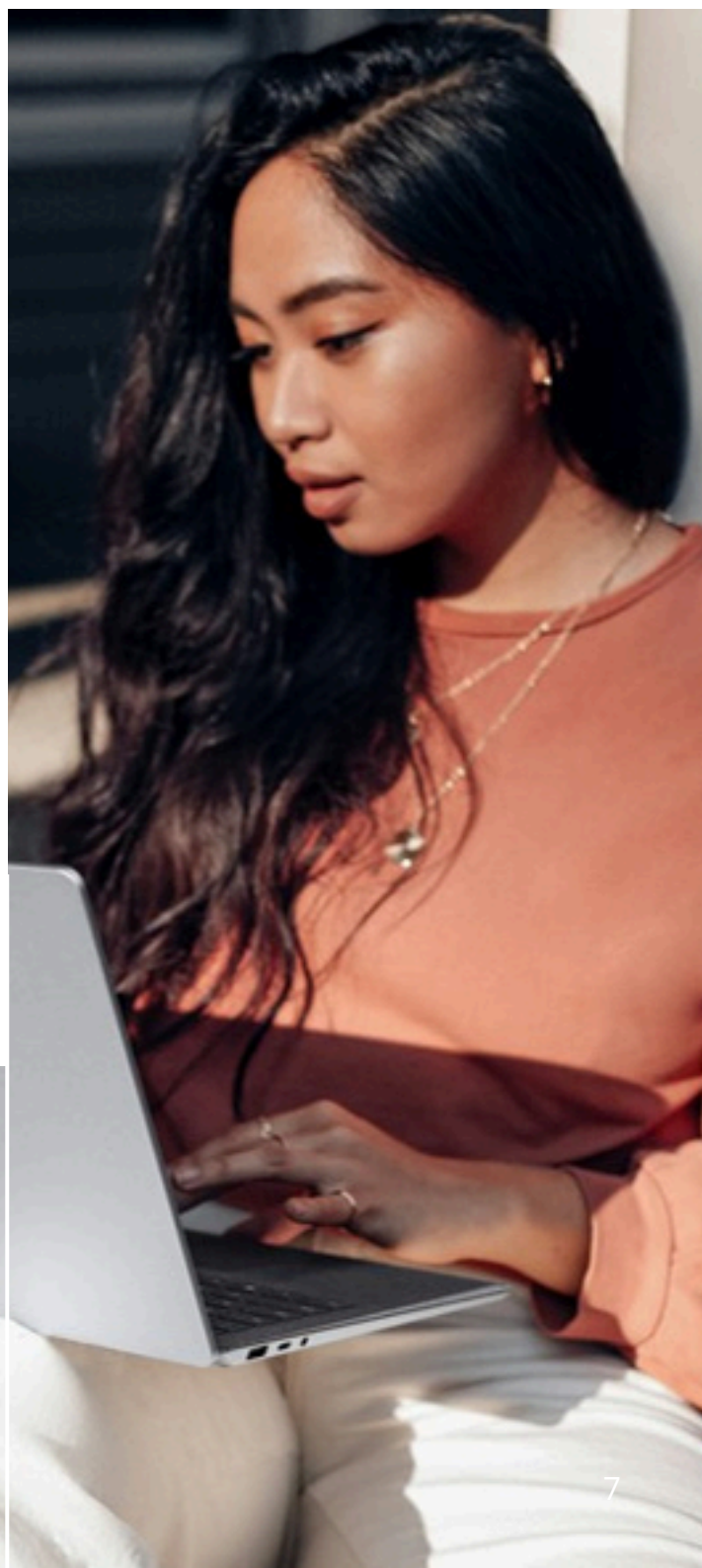
We offer a range of fee concessions to help reduce the cost of study. These are available to eligible learners, including those receiving certain UK state benefits, University of Cambridge staff and alumni, and staff working in schools or further education. Eligibility and concession levels vary by course, and full details are available on our [website](#).

Undergraduate bursaries

We offer a range of bursaries for undergraduate learners to support access to study where finances may be a barrier. These bursaries provide tuition fee reductions for eligible applicants and are designed to support learners entering or returning to undergraduate study. You must have an offer of a place before applying and bursaries cannot usually be combined with other concessions. For details on available bursaries, please visit our [website](#).

External funding

You may also be able to access external funding to support your studies, including government-supported student loans and additional allowances such as the Disabled Students' Allowance (DSA). Eligibility depends on your course, study intensity and personal circumstances, and further guidance is available [online](#).



Undergraduate early enrolment offer

All learners who accept a place on an undergraduate course gain access to our Early Enrolment Package, including early access to the Undergraduate Resource Area on our Virtual Learning Environment (VLE). This supports preparation for study and early engagement with the Cambridge academic community.

Learners who enrol by **31 May 2026** are eligible for £150 off their course fee.

To qualify, you must:

- Have met all your offer conditions
- Booked and paid your first instalment by 31st May 2026

This offer applies to all undergraduate courses and can be used alongside other eligible concessions and bursaries. [Terms and conditions apply](#). Further information is available [on our website](#).

Applying to study with us

We aim to make the application process clear, supportive and accessible. We welcome learners from a wide range of educational, professional and cultural backgrounds, at all stages of life and career.

Entry requirements

Many of our undergraduate courses have no formal entry requirements, making them accessible to a wide range of learners. Higher-level programmes, including undergraduate diplomas and above, usually require some relevant prior knowledge or experience.

All courses are taught at University of Cambridge undergraduate level. While most courses do not require previous qualifications, you should be prepared for study at this standard and motivated to engage with academic learning.

We value professional, personal and life experience, and welcome applications from learners from around the world. Our courses are designed to support lifelong learning and are shaped around the needs of adult learners.

English language requirements

All teaching, learning and assessment is delivered in English, so you should be able to read, write and communicate confidently in the language. If English is not your first language, you will need to provide evidence of proficiency through an approved English language test before your place can be confirmed.

Cancellations and refunds

The University of Cambridge Professional and Continuing Education makes every effort to run all courses as advertised. However, in rare circumstances, we may need to amend, postpone or cancel a course. If this happens before teaching begins, you will be offered a full refund of any fees paid or the option to transfer to an alternative course where possible.

You also have statutory rights to cancel your booking. If you notify us within 14 days of receiving your order confirmation, you are entitled to a full refund, provided the course has not yet started.

For full details of our cancellations and refunds policy, visit our [website](#).

Meet the academic team

Curious to learn more about the Academic Directors leading our undergraduate awards for 2026–27? Select a profile below to discover their academic expertise, career experience and commitment to widening access to Cambridge education.



Dr Chris Huggins

Associate Teaching Professor and Director of Academic Programmes



Dr Yvonne Battle-Felton

Associate Teaching Professor and Academic Director for Creative Writing



Dr Jenny Bavidge

Associate Professor and Academic Director for English Literature



Dr Alex Carter

Associate Teaching Professor and Academic Director for Philosophy and Interdisciplinary Studies



Professor Gilly Carr OBE

Professor in Conflict Archaeology and Holocaust Heritage, and Academic Director in Archaeology



Dr Emma English

Associate Teaching Professor and Academic Director in Medical and Health Sciences



Professor Lydia Hamlett

Associate Teaching Professor and Academic Director for History of Art and Visual Culture



Dr Milena Ivanova

Course Director and Senior Teaching Associate in Philosophy



Dr Nigel Kettley

University Associate Professor and Academic Director in Education and Social Science



Dr James Underwood

Associate Teaching Professor and Academic Director for Coaching



Professor Samantha Williams

Professor in Social History and Academic Director in History



Exceptional teaching

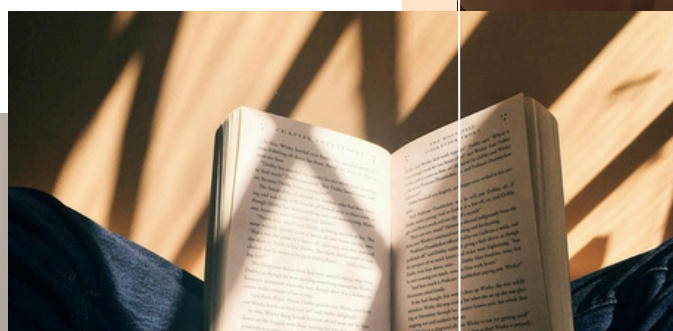
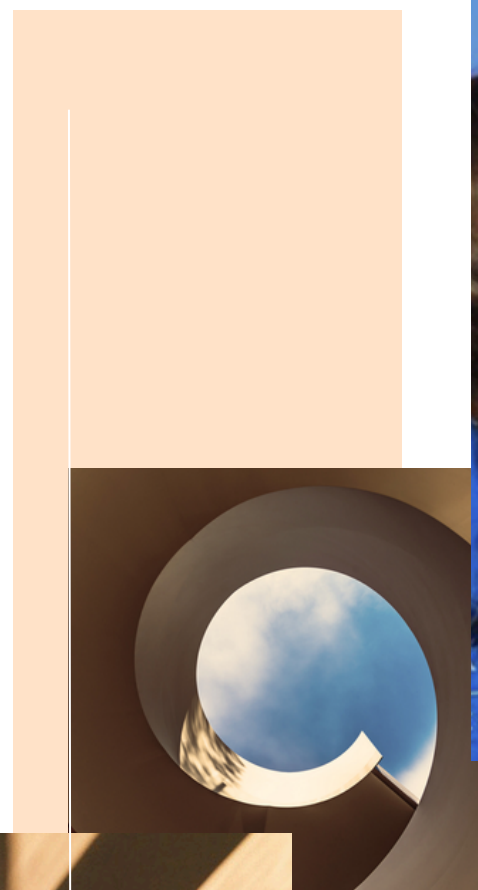


Award-winning teaching that supports your learning.

Our undergraduate teaching is academically rigorous, intellectually stimulating and designed to support adult learners at every stage of their studies. Our courses are taught by experienced University of Cambridge academics, who are committed to clear explanation, thoughtful challenge and creating an inclusive learning environment.

Our approach to teaching has been recognised through a Teaching Excellence Award in 2023, and our most recent student feedback reflects this continued standard. In the 2024-25 PACE Student Survey, 98.9% of students rated the quality of teaching positively. Learners reported particularly strong experiences of clear teaching, with 77% rating the explanation of complex ideas as 'very good' and high levels of intellectual challenge, with 76% describing their course as intellectually stimulating 'very often'.

Alongside this, 93.8% of students reported positive experiences of academic support, and our results place us at or above national benchmarks across key teaching and learning measures. Together, this reflects our commitment to delivering a high-quality undergraduate learning experience that supports confidence, progression and academic success.



98.9% of learners rated the quality of teaching positively.



Gigi

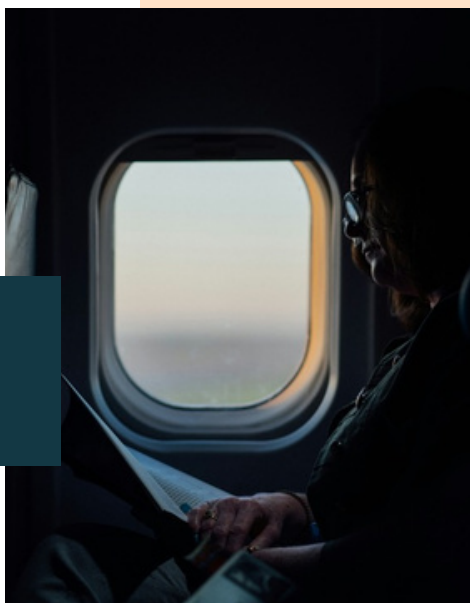
Undergraduate English literature programmes

From mountain peaks to new academic heights

Pursuing elite sport alongside a passion for literature



A flexible Cambridge pathway that supports both.



Learning, community and support

Studying with us means joining a supportive and engaged learning community designed around the needs of adult learners.

Our undergraduate courses are delivered online by expert tutors who support you from the start of your studies through to completing your University of Cambridge qualification. Learning is collaborative and interactive and we encourage discussion, shared ideas and connection with a diverse, global community of learners. We believe learning is strongest when it's shared and you'll never be learning alone.

Online learning

Our undergraduate awards are delivered primarily through our online Virtual Learning Environment (VLE), which acts as the central space for teaching, communication and collaboration. We keep class sizes intentionally small to support meaningful discussion and close engagement with tutors. You'll receive personalised feedback on your work from Cambridge academics, helping you develop your ideas, academic confidence and independence as a learner.

Student community

Our learning environment offers many opportunities to connect with fellow learners, both during live teaching sessions and through discussion forums beyond scheduled classes. You'll also have opportunities to meet peers and academics in person at Madingley Hall & Gardens. Before your studies begin, you'll be invited to a welcome event to meet fellow learners, academics and support staff. On successful completion of your course, you'll also be invited to our annual awards ceremony, celebrating academic achievement and reconnecting with your learning community.

Student support and wellbeing

We are committed to supporting your wellbeing throughout your studies. We understand that many learners balance learning alongside professional and personal commitments and our [Student Support Team](#) is here to help. The team supports learners studying remotely and in person, and is available throughout your course to offer guidance and advice.

Alumni community

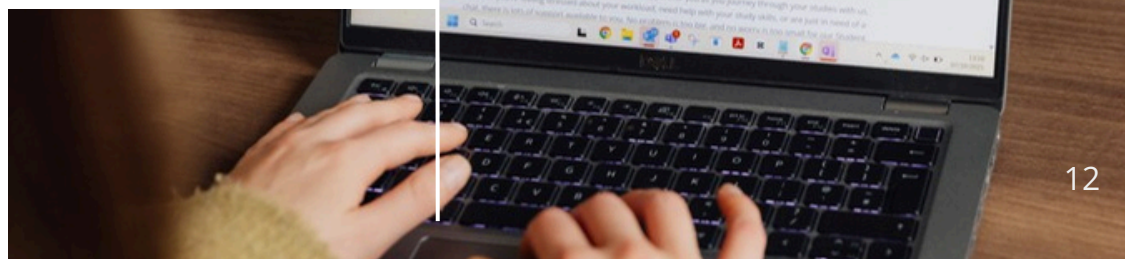
When you complete an undergraduate course with us, you become part of the [University of Cambridge alumni community](#). Alumni benefit from a wide range of opportunities, including networking, events and access to additional resources, helping you stay connected long after your studies finish.

University cards and learning resources

As an undergraduate learner, you may apply for a University card, giving you access to a wide range of University facilities and resources. This includes full access to the Cambridge University Library, both online and in person. You'll benefit from extensive e-books, e-journals, databases and physical collections, alongside academic skills support, referencing guidance and accessibility services to support your studies.

Students with additional requirements

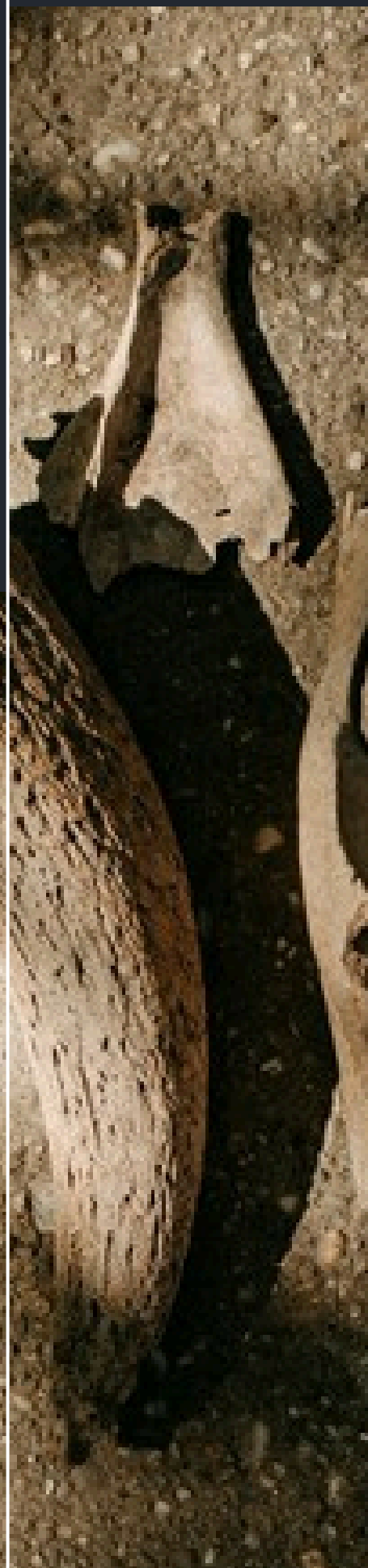
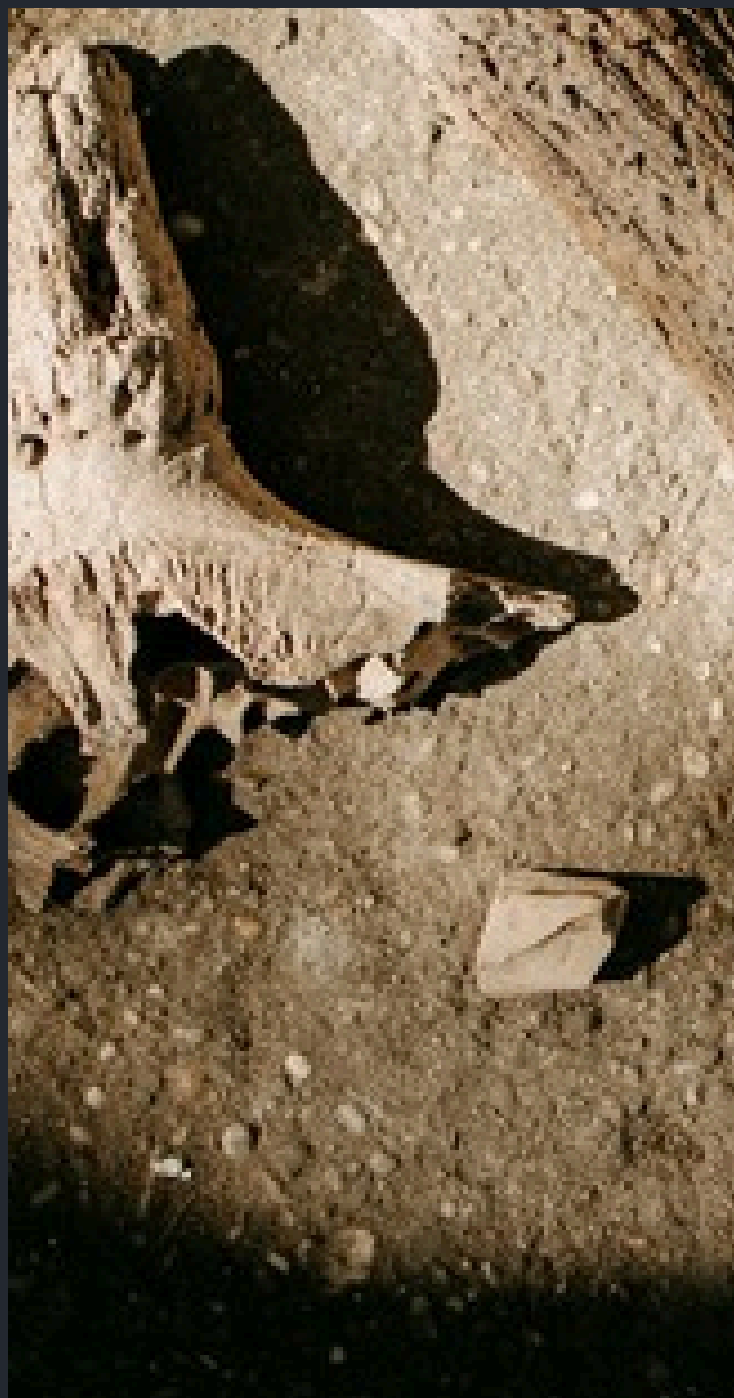
We welcome applications from disabled students and make every effort to offer reasonable adjustments to meet individual needs. If you would like to discuss your requirements, our [Student Support Team](#) is available to support you.





PACE Award Ceremony, 2025. Alexandra Wallace Photography

Archaeology



Certificate in Archaeology of Ancient Britain

Discover 5,000 years of archaeology in ancient Britain as part of our flexible online learning community. Supported by expert tutors and fellow enthusiasts, you'll apply key practical and theoretical skills to a fascinating time period spanning prehistoric and Early Medieval Britain.

Course details

Course dates: 9 October 2026 to 9 June 2027

Course fee: £3,450

Apply by: 2 September 2026

Credits: 60

Academic Director: [Professor Gilly Carr](#)

[Find out more](#)

[Ask us a question](#)



Miranda

Undergraduate award: Diploma in
Archaeology of Ancient Britain

For Miranda, studying archaeology with PACE has offered flexibility without compromising on academic quality. "As a mature student, I was able to apply and take part in a programme despite being based overseas and lacking the time and money for a full-time undergraduate programme," she said. "I love studying archaeology."

She was especially inspired by the calibre of the teaching. "I appreciate that the academic team are some of the very same who teach in the University of Cambridge's Colleges, so I feel that I'm getting a real, high-quality education," she said.

The programme has also opened up new professional possibilities. "There are so many options opening up to me because of this programme," she said. "My main goal is to achieve a certificate that will help me find work at archaeological digs or in related research."

Diploma in Archaeology, Death and the Ancient World

Deepen your knowledge of a key prehistoric and historic period in the archaeology of the ancient world. Connect and debate in virtual discussion groups as you gain an insight into the study of bones, ancient diseases, funerary customs and understandings of the afterlife, all of which are vital in the interpretation of the past.

Course details

Course dates: 9 October 2026 to 9 June 2027

Course fee: £3,450

Apply by: 2 September 2026

Credits: 60

Academic Director: [Professor Gilly Carr](#)

[Find out more](#)

[Ask us a question](#)

For Catherine, being able to watch the academics via pre-recorded lectures and recordings of the live lectures was perfect; "I never felt I was missing out on anything," she said. "The VLE allowed opportunities for students to communicate and work together if it was desired, but it was also formatted perfectly for students like me who did not have a schedule that allowed for live discussions."

Her experience has gone far beyond academic enrichment. "My studies at Professional and Continuing Education have helped me achieve a greater sense of academic belonging (regardless of age) and opened the door to a lifelong dream," she said.



Catherine

Undergraduate award: Diploma in Archaeology: Death and the Ancient World

Certificate in the Study of Medieval England

Join expert tutors and fellow students to explore a fascinating range of material from a multidisciplinary perspective. We'll consider Medieval England's shifting power relationships, the impact of climate change and epidemics, the evolving landscape and agricultural changes, and the importance of cultural transformation.

Course details

Course dates: 9 October 2026 to 9 June 2027

Course fee: £3,450

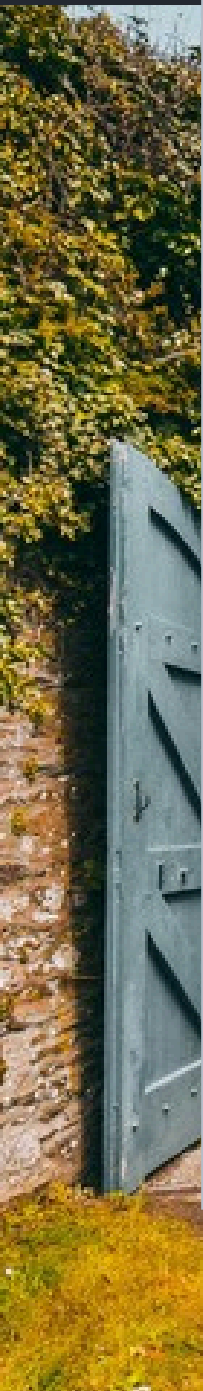
Apply by: 2 September 2026

Credits: 60

Academic Director: [Professor Gilly Carr](#)

[Visit the course page](#)

[Ask us a question](#)



Certificate in World Archaeology

A wide-ranging introduction to the archaeology of cultures across the world that will give you a new understanding of past societies and the issues that affect them today. In the company of expert tutors and fellow enthusiasts, you'll explore the key concepts, methodologies, case studies and topical issues that are being debated in the field right now.

Course details

Course dates: 6 October 2026 to 9 June 2027

Course fee: £3,450

Apply by: 2 September 2026

Credits: 60

Academic Director: [Professor Gilly Carr](#)

[Visit the course page](#)

[Ask us a question](#)



Art History



Certificate in History of Art: Early Modern to Contemporary

Looking for a way into the captivating world of art history? Join expert tutors to explore key objects and principles on a journey that starts with early modern Britain, moves through twentieth-century European art, and brings us right up to date with a look at postmodern and contemporary visual culture.

Course details

Course dates: 17 October 2026 to 9 June 2027

Course fee: £3,450

Apply by: 2 September 2026

Credits: 60

Academic Director: [Professor Lydia Hamlett](#)

[Visit the course page](#)

[Ask us a question](#)

Diploma in History of Art: British Visual Culture

Take your knowledge of art history to the next level with an in-depth look at notable periods of British visual culture, all in the company of expert tutors and fellow enthusiasts.

Course details

Course dates: 17 October 2026 to 9 June 2027

Course fee: £3,450

Apply by: 2 September 2026

Credits: 60

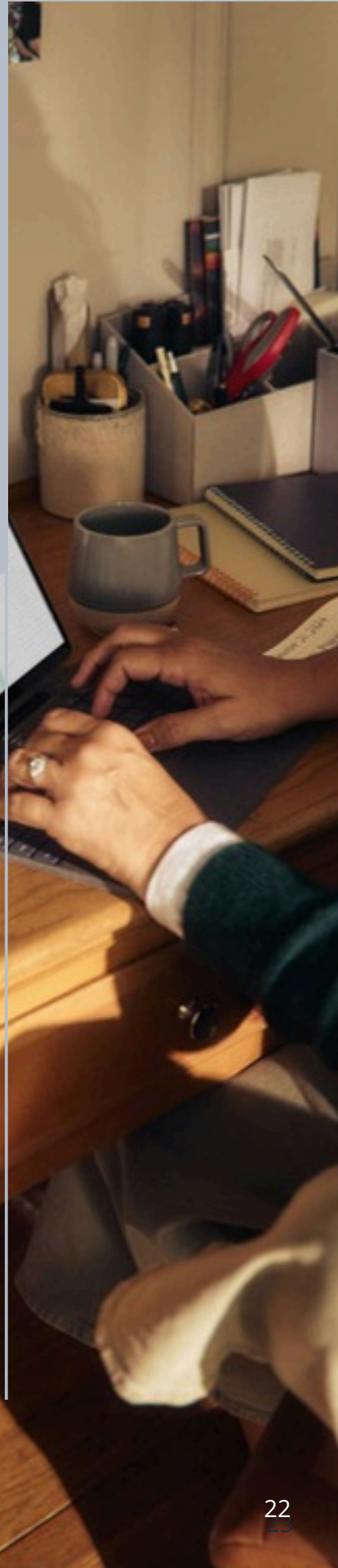
Academic Director: [Professor Lydia Hamlett](#)

[Visit the course page](#)

[Ask us a question](#)



Business and Management



Certificate in Strategic Business and Management

Want to become a more effective business performer and global citizen? On this course, you'll hone the strategic, financial and marketing skills that are essential to modern business, make connections as part of a powerful learning network, and discover how to put your new skills into action.

Course details

Course dates: 9 October 2026 to 9 June 2027

Course fee: £4,300

Apply by: 2 September 2026

Credits: 60

Academic Director: [Dr Nigel Kettley](#)

[Visit the course page](#)

[Ask us a question](#)



Manish

Undergraduate award: Certificate in Strategic Business and Management

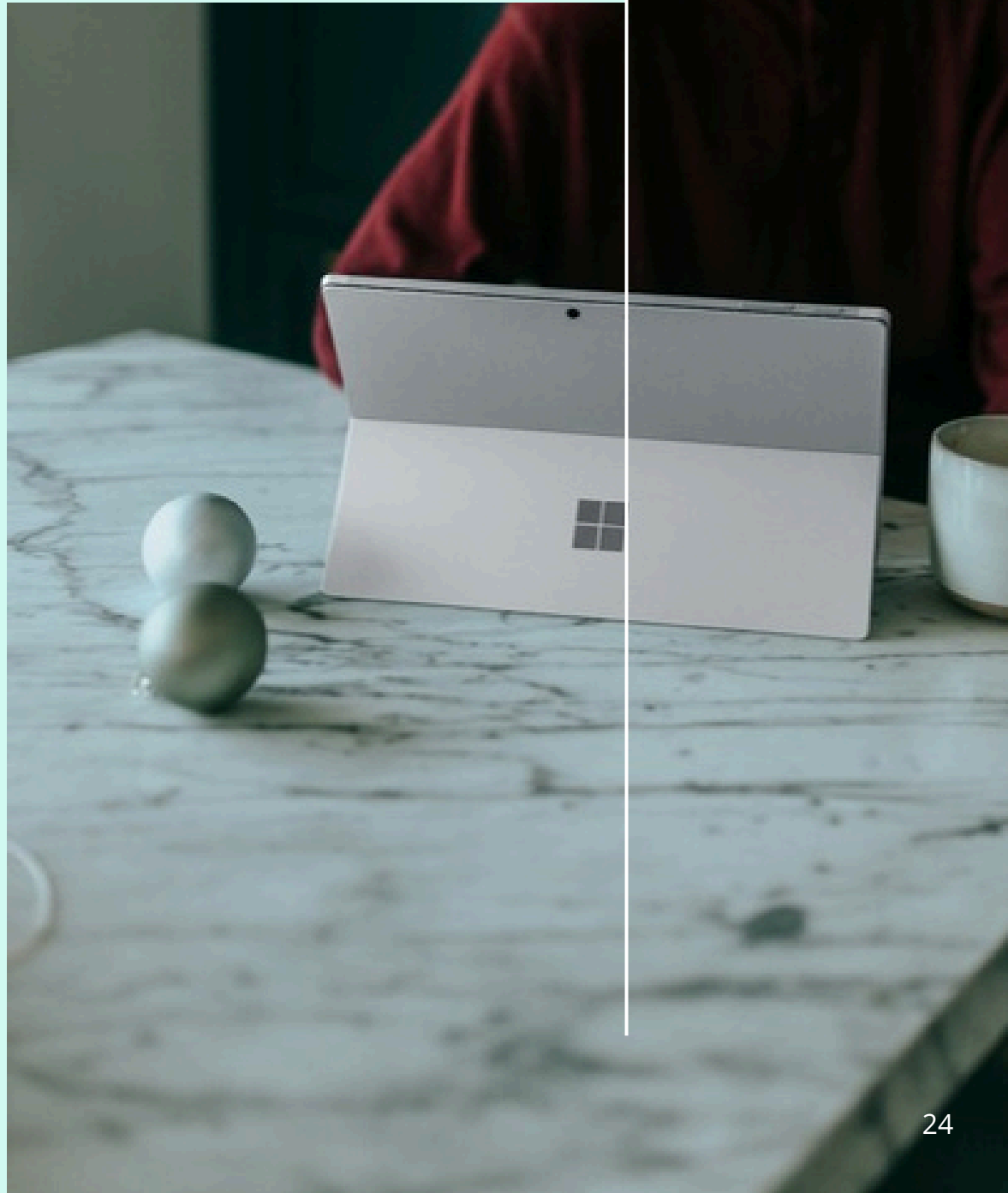
"Everything about the course was excellent, and I now have a lot more confidence."

Manish lives with physical and mental health challenges, alongside autism and Asperger's Syndrome. He credits the Student Support Team with playing a key role in his success. "The team at Professional and Continuing Education have been so supportive and helped me to achieve so much," he said.

His studies helped open the door to new opportunities. He is now pursuing a Global Doctorate in Business Administration (DBA) at the University of Portsmouth and is working on his second book.

His advice for future students is simple and uplifting: "Be positive and enjoy the work. Make as many contacts as you can to work with later in life, and don't let anything hold you back."

Coaching



Certificate in Coaching

Develop the advanced communication and interpersonal skills required to build effective, ethical and impactful coaching relationships. Guided by leading experts, you'll explore coaching as a powerful framework for professional and personal development, gaining practical tools you can apply immediately in your workplace and beyond.

Course details

Course dates: 9 October 2026 to 9 June 2027

Course fee: £5,150

Apply by: 2 September 2026

Credits: 60

Academic Director: [Dr James Underwood](#)

[Visit the course page](#)

[Ask us a question](#)



Catherine

Undergraduate award: Certificate in Coaching

"The curriculum gives a solid introduction to the topic of coaching, and the tutors are all experienced coaches with a lot to teach."

Although Catherine began the course with a basic understanding of coaching, she quickly expanded her knowledge and confidence. "The course has taught me much more about the different philosophies and approaches that exist, how to think about integrating them into my practice, and how to understand the research literature so that I can be evidence-based."

She has already seen the impact of her learning in her professional environment. "This course has really helped me to understand what coaching is, and how I can use a coaching approach not just in dedicated sessions, but regularly in conversations throughout the day, to help my clients and colleagues do their best at work."

Creative Writing



Certificate in Creative Writing: Creative Non-Fiction

This course offers the chance to experiment with writing styles and techniques in a supportive academic environment with inspiration. We'll be reading creative non-fiction and learning from and with leading experts, experienced tutors, and peers.

Course details

Course dates: 9 October 2026 to 9 June 2027

Course fee: £3,450

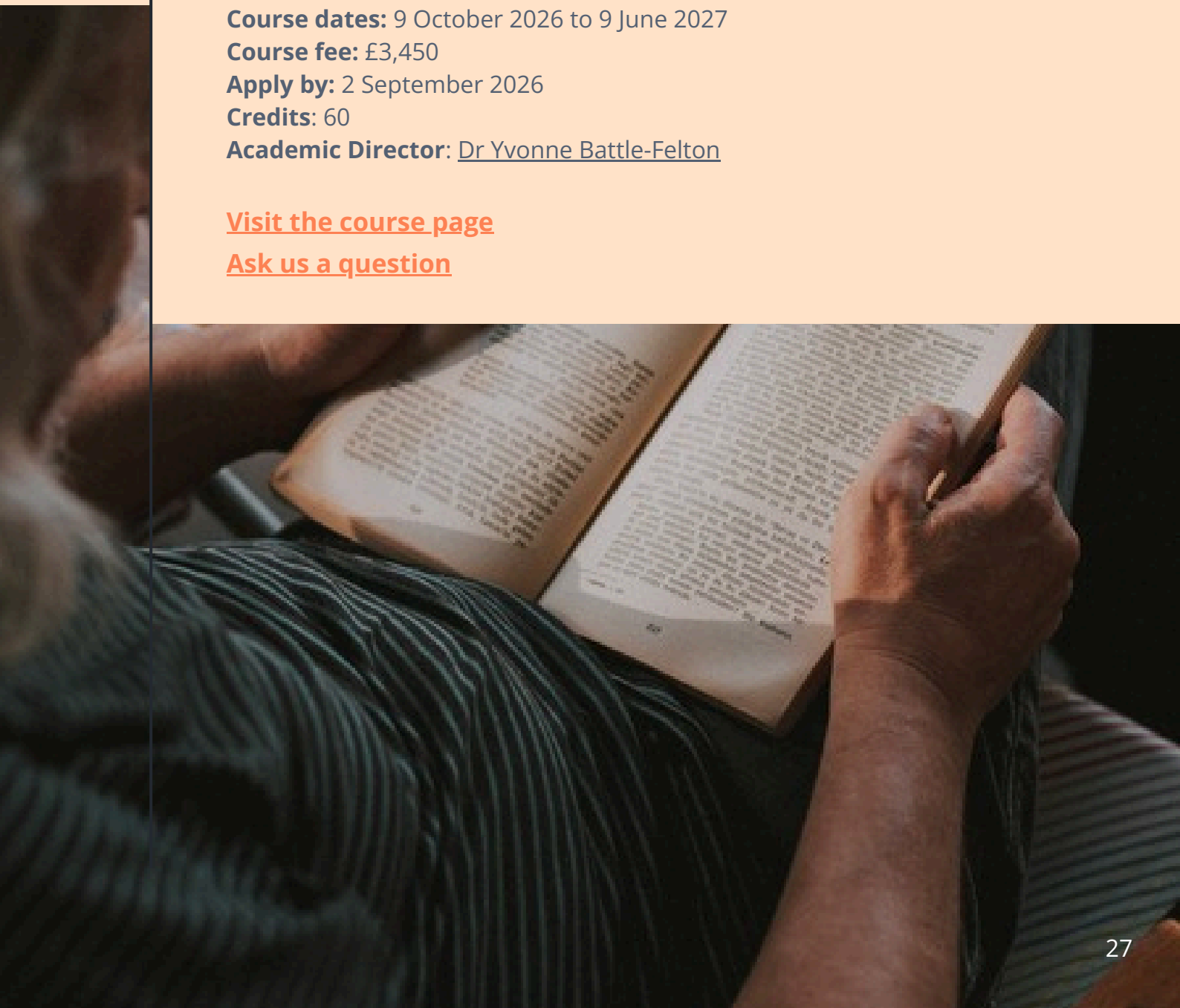
Apply by: 2 September 2026

Credits: 60

Academic Director: [Dr Yvonne Battle-Felton](#)

[Visit the course page](#)

[Ask us a question](#)



Certificate in Creative Writing: Fiction and Writing for Performance

Take a journey of discovery through reading and writing a range of genres and literary styles as a way of stimulating your own writing voice. Through weekly writing tasks, workshops, and discussions, you'll have opportunities to experiment with your own writing in a supportive and creative academic atmosphere.

Course details

Course dates: 9 October 2026 to 9 June 2027

Course fee: £3,450

Apply by: 2 September 2026

Credits: 60

Academic Director: [Dr Yvonne Battle-Felton](#)

[Visit the course page](#)

[Ask us a question](#)



Diploma in Creative Writing: Advanced Non-Fiction

An ideal progression from a Certificate in Creative Writing, or for students with writing experience. This course dives deeper into different forms through readings, discussion of example texts, analysis of narrative techniques, and writing. You'll read memoir, family history, travel writing, and more, and discover the true stories you most want to write.

Course details

Course dates: 9 October 2026 to 9 June 2027

Course fee: £3,450

Apply by: 2 September 2026

Credits: 60

Academic Director: [Dr Yvonne Battle-Felton](#)

[Visit the course page](#)

[Ask us a question](#)

Diploma in Creative Writing: Advanced Fiction and Writing for Performance

We'll explore the history of the novel and analyse a variety of published work including scripts and screenplays. You'll apply fiction skills and tools to your own work and later test scriptwriting techniques. We'll also interrogate some of the moral and ethical questions around creative writing, representation, and technology.

Course details

Course dates: 9 October 2026 to 9 June 2027

Course fee: £3,450

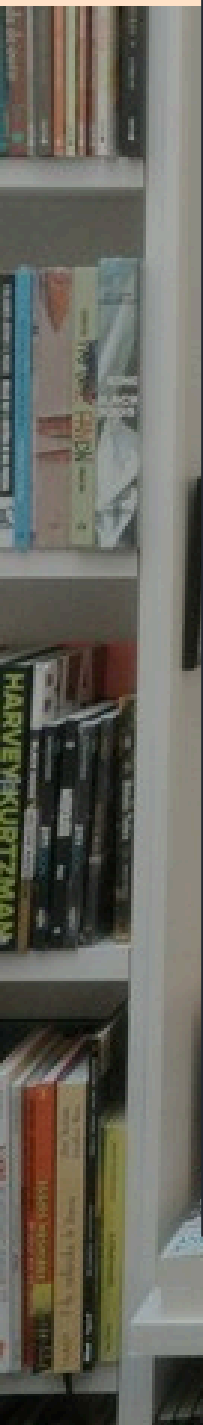
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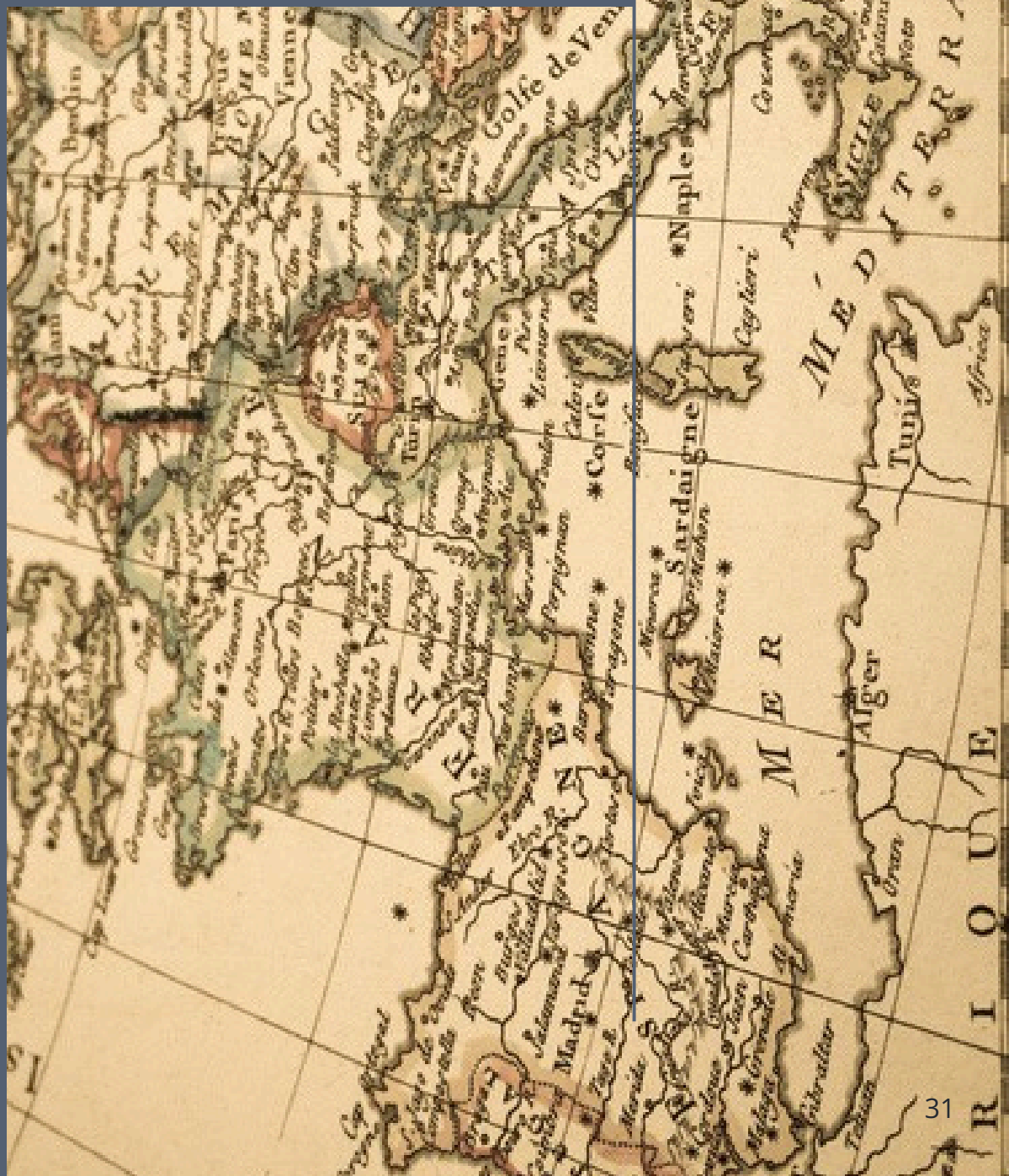
Academic Director: [Dr Yvonne Battle-Felton](#)

[Visit the course page](#)

[Ask us a question](#)



History



Certificate in History

Join us to discover some of the key skills and concepts used by historians. We'll explore significant periods in British, European and American history. Topics range from the foundations of the modern British state in the 17th century to fascism in interwar Europe and the Second World War, as well as Native Americans and the making of America.

Course details

Course dates: 9 October 2026 to 9 June 2027

Course fee: £3,450

Apply by: 2 September 2026

Credits: 60

Tutors: [Professor Samantha Williams](#)

[Visit the course page](#)

[Ask us a question](#)



Souhardya

Undergraduate award: Certificate in History

Souhardya describes his experience as rich, collaborative, and inclusive. The course helped him develop academically while also fostering a sense of community and shared learning.

"The whole community of my course was very warm and welcoming; we had a fairly international community from all over the world, and we used to talk about all the different perceptions of specific topics we would cover on the course."

Weekly discussions with his academics helped him get more from each module, and the range of student backgrounds, from recent school-leavers to mature learners, created a space where different perspectives were genuinely welcomed.

Certificate in Classical Studies

Join us this year to explore the writings of the ancient Mediterranean, spanning Greek and Latin literature in translation and the evolution of Athenian democracy. With plenty of opportunity for peer discussion and debate, we'll draw on a wide range of sources and ask how they continue to challenge and find relevance in our modern world.

Course details

Course dates: 9 October 2026 to 9 June 2027

Course fee: £3,450

Apply by: 2 September 2026

Credits: 60

Tutors: [Professor Samantha Williams](#)

[Visit the course page](#)

[Ask us a question](#)



Jack

Undergraduate award: Certificate in
Classical Studies

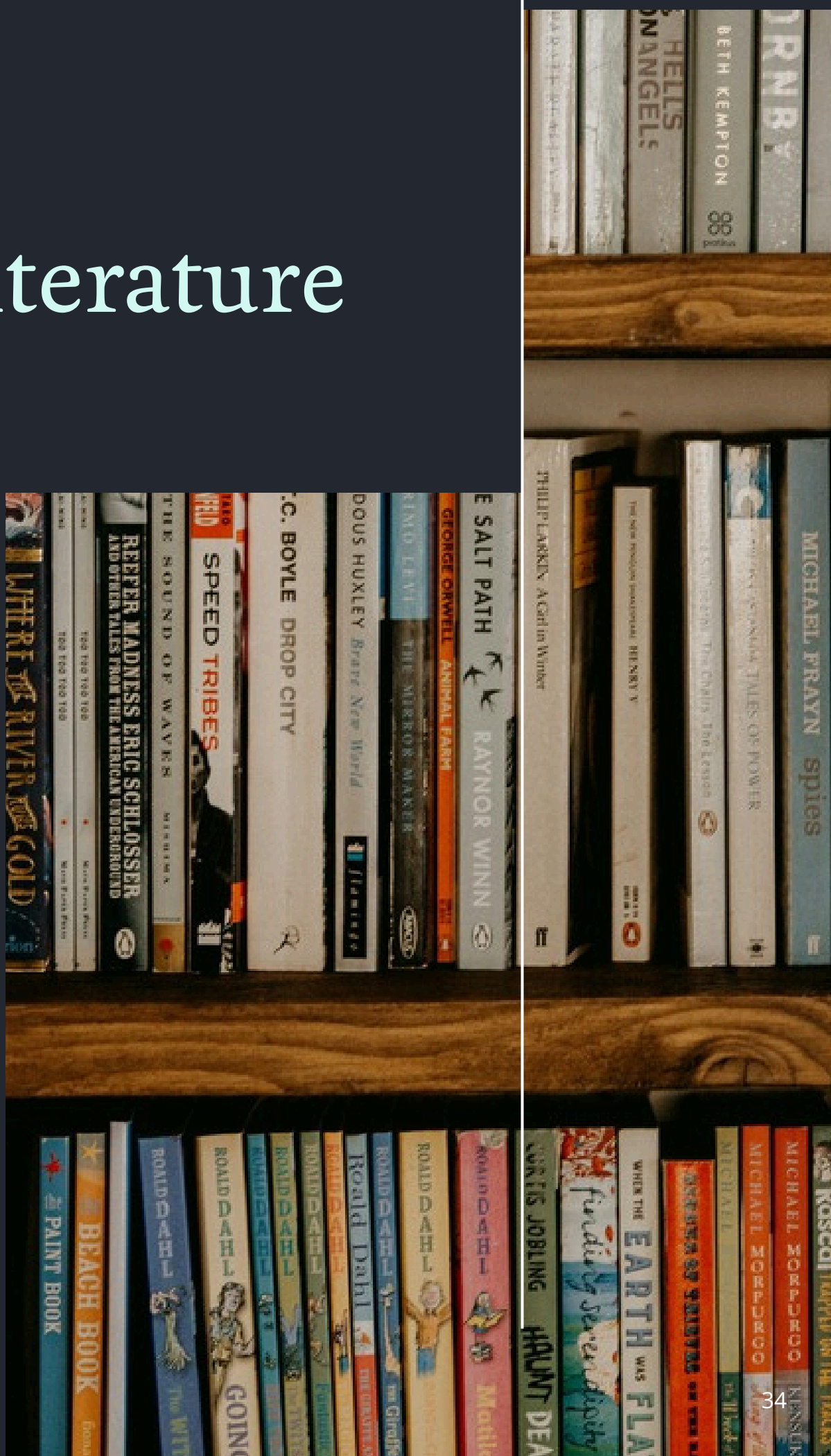
"I wanted to up-level my subject knowledge around the Greco-Romans and classical civilisations to ensure a substantive knowledge across the curriculum."

Jack was particularly struck by the quality of the teaching and learning experience. "It became clear from the offset, whilst looking through the Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) and after the first lecture, that Daniel was delivering a top-rate student experience,"

"His brilliant responsiveness to learners, quality curriculum design and overall focus on high-quality teaching and learning really stood out."

He credits the programme with helping him enhance his teaching across the wider Academy Trust.

Literature



Certificate in Theatre and Performance Studies

This course introduces the key concepts, contexts and methods needed to study drama and performance with confidence. You'll explore theatre history alongside contemporary practice, developing an analytical and critical understanding of dramatic literature and performance from around the world. Through recorded lectures, curated reading and online discussion, you'll build your knowledge in a supportive academic environment. Ready to immerse yourself in the world of theatre?

Course details

Course dates: 9 October 2026 to 9 June 2027

Course fee: £3,450

Apply by: 2 September 2026

Credits: 60

Tutors: [Dr Jenny Bavidge](#)

[Visit the course page](#)

[Ask us a question](#)



Amanda

Undergraduate award: Certificate in Theatre and Performance Studies

"After a long career in theatre and creative practice, Amanda returned to formal study later in life through our Theatre and Performance Studies course.

Now based in France, she rediscovered her confidence and reconnected with her creative ambitions while studying alongside a global community of learners.

"I'm enthralled," she says. "The course has reignited my creativity and strengthened my confidence."

Balancing study with everyday life, she found the flexibility of part-time learning both energising and inspiring. "I study whenever I have a spare moment – it never feels like a chore."

Reflecting on her experience, Amanda describes it as "an exceptional experience" that has opened new creative possibilities and reaffirmed her love of learning."

Diploma in English Literature: Literature Past and Present

This course will develop your knowledge of literature from different periods and across a range of poetry and prose. Alongside expert tutors and fellow enthusiasts, you'll get to know authors and their works in depth, and discover ideas and debates you may not have encountered before.

Course details

Course dates: 9 October 2026 to 9 June 2027

Course fee: £3,450

Apply by: 2 September 2026

Credits: 60

Tutors: [Dr Jenny Bavidge](#)

[Visit the course page](#)

[Ask us a question](#)



Gigi

English Literature programmes

Gigi grew up in London, training in classical ballet before a foot injury led her to skiing. "I've always needed to move," she says. "When ballet stopped being possible, skiing felt like the only place my body and mind could breathe."

During lockdown, she trained and raced in Europe while studying online, balancing days on Italian slopes with evenings reading English Literature. "Reading on the mountain was surreal," she recalls. "It was exhausting and completely wonderful."

Choosing not to attend full-time university, Gigi discovered Cambridge PACE. "Studying at Cambridge while racing for Team GB? It felt like the stars aligning." Now completing her second diploma, she balances elite sport and study. "Sometimes I'm writing an essay at 5 a.m. before a race," she says. "It sounds mad, but it keeps me grounded."

Certificate in English Literature: Approaches to Literary Study

Deepen your knowledge of English literature through study of poetry, drama and prose, learning how to analyse literary form and style from Greek tragedy to contemporary novels. Through a combination of live teaching and pre-recorded lectures, we'll introduce you to techniques of close reading and contextual analysis.

Course details

Course dates: 9 October 2026 to 9 June 2027

Course fee: £3,450

Apply by: 2 September 2026

Credits: 60

Tutors: [Dr Jenny Bavidge](#)

[Visit the course page](#)

[Ask us a question](#)



Philosophy



Certificate in Philosophy: Metaphysics, Philosophy of Language and Ethics

Do you enjoy thinking about the nature of reality, how we should treat one another, or what it means to be a person? What should we believe, and what is it possible for us to know? This course is a chance to delve deeper into these and many more fascinating questions, supported by expert tutors.

Course details

Course dates: 9 October 2026 to 9 June 2027

Course fee: £5,150

Apply by: 2 September 2026

Credits: 60

Tutors: [Dr Alex David Carter](#)

[Visit the course page](#)

[Ask us a question](#)



Amandeep

Undergraduate award: Certificate in
Philosophy: Metaphysics,
Philosophy of Language and Ethics

For Amandeep, studying Philosophy at PACE was a transformative intellectual experience. As he reflects, “The unexamined life is not well lived, and studying philosophy has helped me see the beauty of which our being is capable,” capturing the depth of insight the course offered.

He found the teaching both stimulating and engaging, noting how Dr Carter’s blend of humour and “bombastic philosophising” made complex philosophical concepts accessible and exciting. Juggling study with work and wider commitments wasn’t without its challenges, but the support and environment helped him grow.

Reflecting on his time with PACE, Amandeep says it “has fundamentally shifted my sense of normality, self-belief, and by proxy, my ambitions,” showing the lasting personal and academic impact of his journey with us.

Diploma in Creativity Theory, History and Philosophy

Join us on this flexible course to explore our understanding of creativity. With plenty of peer collaboration, we'll ask what it was that made particular cultures, societies and individuals creative and explore how we can 'recapture at will' our most creative moments.

Course details

Course dates: 9 October 2026 to 9 June 2027

Course fee: £3,450

Apply by: 2 September 2026

Credits: 60

Tutors: [Dr Alex Carter](#)

[Visit the course page](#)

[Ask us a question](#)

Diploma in History and Philosophy of Science and Technology

Are you gripped by debates on misinformation, AI and the role of science in public life? This course brings together the philosophy and history of science, and the relationship between technology and society, to explore how knowledge is created, challenged and shared. You'll ground yourself in key theory while developing the critical thinking skills needed to navigate today's complex information landscape.

Course details

Course dates: 9 October 2026 to 9 June 2027

Course fee: £3,450

Apply by: 2 September 2026

Credits: 60

Tutors: [Dr Milena Ivanova](#)

[Visit the course page](#)

[Ask us a question](#)

New for
2026-27

Science



Certificate in Immunology

The study of immunology provides insight into the mechanisms of health and disease at both the acute and the chronic level. This course introduces the key processes involved in the function and the interaction of the innate and the adaptive immune systems, explores the developing area of cancer immunology, and uses a range of case studies to examine the interrelationship between the immune response, health and disease.

Course details

Course dates: 9 October 2026 to 9 June 2027

Course fee: £3,450

Apply by: 2 September 2026

Credits: 60

Tutors: [Dr Emma English](#)

[Visit the course page](#)

[Ask us a question](#)

Certificate in Ecology and Conservation

Interested in working in the environmental sector? This course explores the science behind efforts to conserve the natural world. Underpinned by key ecological theory, the course applies core principles to a diverse range of environments and examines how best to mitigate the impacts of human activity on natural populations and ecosystems.

Course details

Course dates: 9 October 2026 to 9 June 2027

Course fee: £4,300

Apply by: 2 September 2026

Credits: 60

Tutors: [Dr Emma English](#)

[Visit the course page](#)

[Ask us a question](#)



Joey

Undergraduate award: Certificate in Ecology and Conservation and Advanced Diploma in Research Theory and Practice

For Joey, learning has been key to finding her direction. At just 21, her journey has taken her from waitressing and lifeguarding to working with marine animals at SEA LIFE Brighton, an experience that clarified her ambitions.

It was through this hands-on work that Joey decided to deepen her understanding of ecology and conservation. "After starting my degree and getting a job working with marine animals, I realised this is what I really want to do," she explains. She began studying with PACE on the Undergraduate Certificate in Ecology and Conservation and is now undertaking the Advanced Diploma in Research Theory and Practice.

"I was heading in a new career direction and needed qualifications to support my ambitions," Joey says. Reflecting on her progress, she adds, "These courses are giving me everything I need to pursue a career in marine conservation," a foundation that has already led to an offer of a Master's in Marine Biology.

Certificate in Cognitive Psychology

There has never been a more interesting time to dive into cognitive psychology, which studies mental processes, including how people perceive, think, remember, learn, solve problems, make decisions and are influenced by their emotions. We will explore together what are now the key questions, methods and principles used to discover the psychological realm of human experience. By the end of the course, you will know the principles underlying the nature and nurture debate; have a clear idea of the relationship between brain, mind and behaviour, and of the major approaches to observe and study the mind-body system.

Course details

Course dates: 9 October 2026 to 9 June 2027

Course fee: £4,300

Apply by: 2 September 2026

Credits: 60

Tutors: [Dr Nigel Kettley](#).

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[Ask us a question](#)



Judith

Undergraduate award: Certificate in Cognitive Psychology

For Judith, returning to education in her sixties was a milestone she never expected. After leaving school at 15 and supporting her children through university, she finally chose to study for herself. "As I was approaching my sixtieth, I decided that further education would be my birthday present to myself," she said.

Enrolling in the Undergraduate Certificate in Cognitive Psychology proved transformative. "Attending the University of Cambridge as a student through Professional and Continuing Education has been one of the best experiences of my life."

The community made the journey even richer. "It has been a privilege to attend, meet people from all over the world, and be taught by fantastic, knowledgeable, and very patient, lecturers," she said. "Thank you so much for letting me be part of it all."

Advanced Diploma in Research Theory and Practice

Our Advanced Diplomas are Level 6 qualifications (final-year undergraduate level) designed for those ready to undertake independent research. You'll develop advanced research skills and complete a substantial research project under the supervision of an experienced academic. You can study an Advanced Diploma in any of our subject areas, building on prior undergraduate-level study and preparing for further academic progression.

Course details

Course dates: 9 October 2026 to 9 June 2027

Course fee: £5,150

Apply by: 2 August 2026

Credits: 60

Tutors: [Dr Alex David Carter](#)

[Visit the course page](#)

[Ask us a question](#)



Renske

Advanced Diplomas in Research in Theory and Practice. Currently completing two Philosophy Certificates.

For Renske, learning has always been about making sense of complexity. A Dutch philosopher and advisor, her career spans fine arts, perfumery, teaching and academic research. "My career has been a pretty wild series of turns," she reflects, "all unified by a central question: how do individuals and institutions construct meaning, make ethical decisions, and navigate complexity?"

She is currently completing two Certificates in Philosophy, following earlier study with University of Cambridge Professional and Continuing Education (PACE). "After years as a practitioner, I had gained a wealth of 'tacit' experiential knowledge," she explains. "Going through adult education allowed me to go from intuiting to articulating."

What began as a search for credibility became transformative. "In hindsight, I feel I found something much deeper," she says. Reflecting on the impact, Renske is clear: "The Cambridge studies provided the foundational rigour that directly enabled my pivot into philosophy, ethics and advisory work."

Advanced Diploma in Research in the Arts/Sciences

For those who wish to continue studying, a second Advanced Diploma year allows you to deepen your research and extend your project, bringing the qualification to 120 credits over two years. You'll work closely with expert supervisors, strengthen your academic identity, and join an engaged research community, with clear progression routes for those considering postgraduate study.

Course details

Course dates: 9 October 2026 to 9 June 2027

Course fee: £5,150

Apply by: 2 August 2026

Credits: 60

Tutors: [Dr Alex David Carter](#)

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Eric

Undergraduate award: Advanced Diploma in Research in the Arts/Sciences

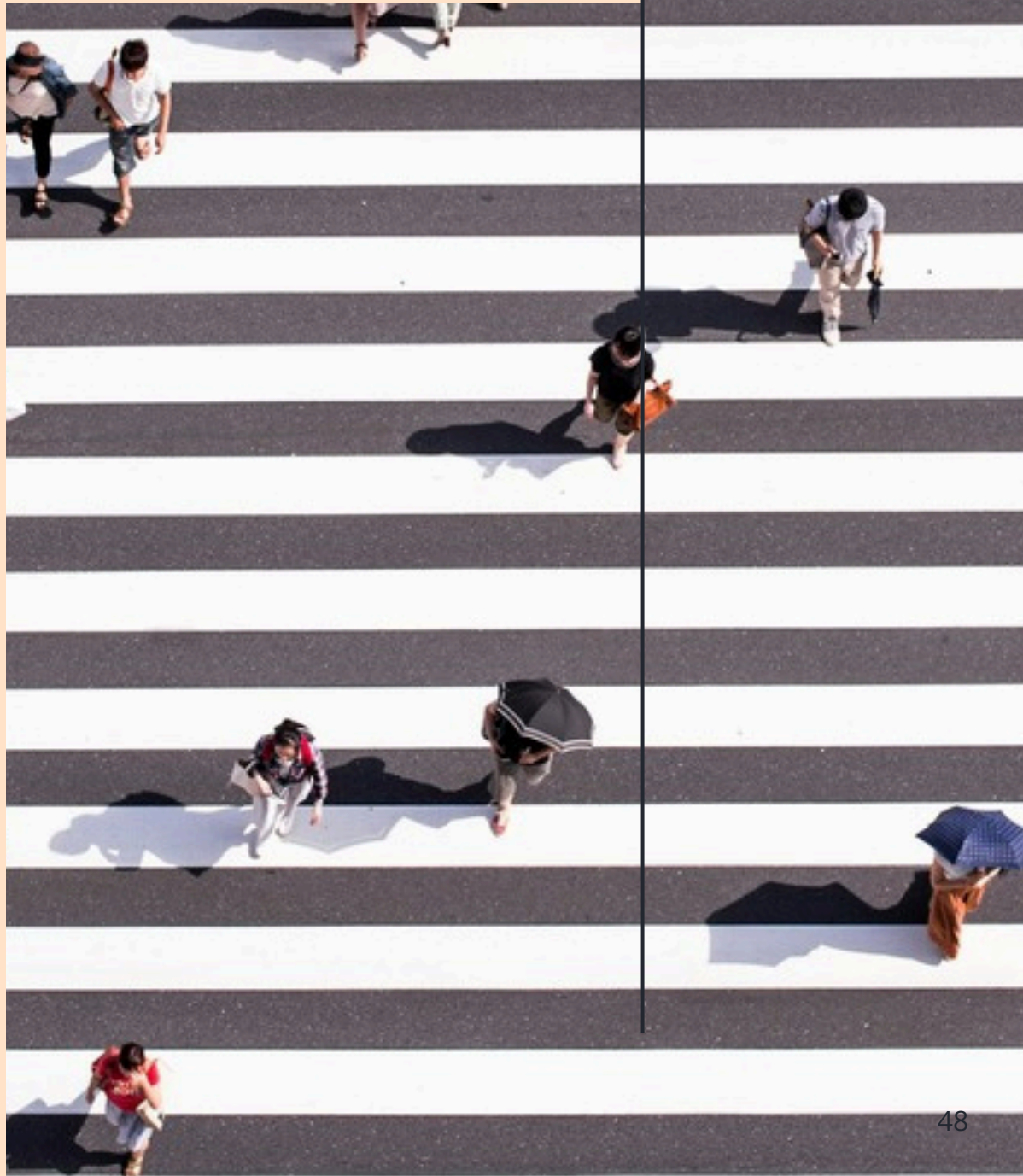
For Eric, a senior architect from Chicago, studying at Cambridge offered space for reflection as well as renewal. "I've been an architect for over three decades," he shared, overseeing major public safety projects for Cook County. A long-standing technical question, alongside a desire to return to teaching, led him to PACE.

He began with the Advanced Diploma in Research in the Sciences, an experience that proved formative. "My Advanced Diploma supervisor was extraordinary. It was a privilege to write my dissertation under his guidance." The academic depth and close supervision encouraged him to continue, and he returned the following year to begin the Master's, drawn to its "structure and scholarly rigour" and the flexibility of the hybrid format.

The impact has been significant. "Receiving a First on my dissertation and being admitted to the Master's programme has boosted my confidence." His advice to future students is simple: "Just do it."

"Cambridge has transformed my life."

Social Science



Certificate in Sociology, Politics and Psychology

Curious about how our world works at society and state level? What drives us as individuals? Explore core ideas, theories and research methods across sociology, politics and psychology and the connections between them. We'll engage with real-world issues and debates, from inequality and power to personality, while developing your critical thinking and insight into human behaviour.

Course details

Course dates: 9 October 2026 to 9 June 2027

Course fee: £3,450

Apply by: 2 September 2026

Credits: 60

Tutors: [Dr Nigel Kettley](#).

[Visit the course page](#)

[Ask us a question](#)

New for
2026-27

Certificate in International Relations

Gain a deeper understanding of the world order and get to grips with the rapidly shifting global landscape. Connect and collaborate in virtual discussion groups as you apply international relations theories to areas such as security, politics, trade and diplomacy.

Course details

Course dates: 9 October 2026 to 9 June 2027

Course fee: £4,300

Apply by: 2 September 2026

Credits: 60

Tutors: [Dr Nigel Kettley](#).

[Visit the course page](#)

[Ask us a question](#)



Ming-Jung
Undergraduate award:
Certificate in International
Relations

Ming-Jung joined the Undergraduate award: Certificate in International Relations looking for a rigorous, well-structured course that encouraged meaningful academic engagement.

"After attending open days and 1:1 discussion offered by several educational institutions, I decided that Professional and Continuing Education offers the most solid course structure and interaction with the lecturers, and I was right" she said.

Ming-Jung found the teaching especially valuable, not only for the content but for the challenge it presented. "The lecturers apply the same standard to us as they would to any undergraduate student at the central University," she said. "That constant challenge has helped me improve my ability to organise and articulate my thoughts and build my understanding of current affairs."

Diploma in International Relations

Take your knowledge of international relations theory and method to the next level with an in-depth look at state behaviour and the nature of power. As part of our international community of learners, you'll explore the changes in the global system brought about by political ideology, cultural identity, social networks, regional and global social movements, and pressing environmental challenges.

Course details

Course dates: 9 October 2026 to 9 June 2027

Course fee: £4,300

Apply by: 2 September 2026

Credits: 60

Tutors: [Dr Nigel Kettley](#)

[Visit the course page](#)

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