

Newsletter for New Students

MA Publishing 2021–22

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A warm welcome to MA Publishing! We can't wait to meet you all at the end of September. In the meantime, we've put together this newsletter to give you an idea of what to expect when you join us and to suggest some ways in which you can begin to engage with the course in advance of your arrival at UCL.

Plans for Teaching

We welcome the opportunity to return to on-campus teaching and learning this year but at the same time we recognise that it is vital to ensure the safety of both staff and students and to be sensitive to the varied contexts of all our students. Our blended learning model will combine face-to-face seminars with active online learning. Face-to-face sessions will be in groups of no more than 35 students and may include some social distancing measures. Online sessions will build on the experience and best practice of the past 18 months. We focus on active and collaborative learning, ensuring that students learn through research and enquiry while emphasising the ways in which they can connect with wider contexts, locally and internationally.

For more information about UCL's approach to teaching for the coming year you can follow this link: <https://www.ucl.ac.uk/students/academic-support/your-ucl-education/your-ucl-education-202122-academic-year>

The structure of the MA Publishing course is as follows:

- ✓ In Term 1, immediately following induction week, you kick off with a week-long, full-time module called **Publishing Contexts**. This immersive module will cover the basics of the modern publishing industry – how it grew to what it is today, who the main companies are, the key people, the global scene, the key developments and challenges. This module is timetabled Monday to Friday from morning until end of the day. This year, we will be on campus on Monday, Tuesday and Friday, with online learning on Wednesday and Thursday.
- ✓ The rest of Term 1 consists of core modules called **Authorship, Business Management in Book Publishing, Sales and Marketing** and **Editing, Writing and Communication in Publishing**. These modules will give you opportunities to obtain key business skills (finance, planning, project management, editorial, legal awareness) as well as encourage you to develop creative and entrepreneurial talents.
- ✓ Term 2 consists of optional modules. You choose three modules. These modules allow you to either maintain a path that crosses publishing fields, or to specialise a little more. The Publishing choices this year (subject to availability, timetabling and prerequisites) will be **Theories of the Book; Illustration and Publishing; Academic and Journals Publishing; Ethics in Publishing** and **Publishing Design**. Module choices from other programmes within the Department of Information Studies will also be on offer. You can find out more about all the options at our Options Fair, during Induction Week. Please note that optional modules will be capped at 35 people and you cannot change your option after a certain date in Term 1 which will be confirmed during Induction Week.
- ✓ For modules other than Publishing Contexts, ‘synchronous’ online sessions (that’s a fancy way of saying sessions you have to attend within a timetabled slot) will be on Thursdays and on-campus teaching will be Fridays. All other activities on the modules will be provided ‘asynchronously’ (ie they will be recordings, readings or exercises that you can engage with in your own time with recommendations being provided on a module by module basis). Wednesdays are typically kept free for extra-curricular activities, working on group pieces, and Department-related meetings. These don’t happen every week, but it’s best to be aware that you will need some available time to ensure project work is possible.
- ✓ A dissertation will need to be completed by early Sept 2022. You will get support and help with these, beginning in term 1. In addition to support from your course tutors, the Department of Information Studies also manages a common **Dissertation** module which includes online materials designed to support all students across the department in developing the necessary skills to conduct individualised research.

Pre-Course Preparation

There are some things you can do to get involved and start your engagement with the course and industry before September:

THE BOOKSELLER

Make sure you are registered for the free daily news feed from *The Bookseller*. (see <http://www.thebookseller.com>) Skim daily! You can also sign up for a heavily discounted student rate and receive the weekly magazine, too – either in digital or physical form! Just follow this link: <https://www.thebookseller.com/student-subscription-discount>



BookBrunch

Sign up to BookBrunch, the other main book trade news site, for free! See <https://www.bookbrunch.co.uk/page/subscribe/>



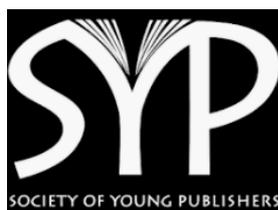
<https://www.linkedin.com/groups/5055937/>

Sign up for our UCL Publishing group on LinkedIn (and start building your own LinkedIn profile)



@uclpublishing

Sign up for Twitter (we will be using Twitter throughout the course), and start following key publishing feeds



<http://thesyp.org.uk/>

Join the SYP (Society of Young Publishers)! It's just £24 for students, and worth every penny. Great for networking, help with careers advice, mentoring, events and more....

Borough Book Bash

<https://boroughbookbash.com/>

Bloomsbury Institute

<https://www.bloomsbury.com/au/authors/bloomsbury-institute/>

Faber Social

<https://www.faber.co.uk/books/faber-social.html>

Some other organisations that put on publishing events (but by no means an exhaustive list)

Reading

Generally, most of the reading we highlight for the Publishing MA is **recommended** reading which is intended to augment your understanding and engagement with particular issues. There is no expectation that you must purchase any suggested texts. When/If this is ever the case we will make this explicit to you in the course materials and provides links to accessing these sources.

However, we have found that the following books are often useful foundations in starting to explore the world of Publishing, should you like to have your own textual resources:

- ✓ *Inside Book Publishing*: 6th Edition (2020) by Giles Clark and Angus Phillips
- ✓ *The Publishing Business: A Guide to Starting Out and Getting On* (2018) by Kelvin Smith and Melanie Ramdarshan Bold
- ✓ *Selling Rights*: 8th Edition (2020) by Lynette Owen

In addition to these, our very own student-run open access journal *Interscript* offers some interesting entry level articles for you to explore: <https://www.interscriptjournal.com/>

We would also recommend you visit the Publishers' Association website for news and articles about the publishing industry in the UK. Whilst most of their research and publications are paywalled, you can access many news articles and summaries for free: <https://www.publishers.org.uk/>

Initial Contact Points

Ian Evans (ian.evans@ucl.ac.uk): contact Ian for all queries relating to Admissions, Registration, and (once term has started) Assessment submission.

Dr Daniel Boswell (d.boswell@ucl.ac.uk): Daniel is Lecturer in Publishing and Director of Studies for the Department of Information Studies. In Term One, he is the co-convenor of the Publishing Contexts, Business Management in Book Publishing and Sales, Marketing and Promotion modules. In Term Two, he leads the Illustration and Publishing and Publishing Design modules

Nick Canty (n.canty@ucl.ac.uk): Nick is Lecturer in Publishing. He will be teaching on the Sales, Marketing and Promotion and Business Management modules in Term One. In Term Two he leads the module on Academic and Journals Publishing.

Dr Caroline Davis (c.davis@ucl.ac.uk): Caroline is Associate Professor in Publishing. She will be leading the Editing, Writing and Communication module in Term One and the Theories of the Book module in Term Two.

Professor Samantha Rayner (s.rayner@ucl.ac.uk): Sam is Professor of Publishing and Book Cultures. She is Programme Director of the course in Term One and will be leading the Publishing Contexts module. Sam will be on sabbatical in Term Two.

Dr Simon Rowberry (s.rowberry@ucl.ac.uk): Simon is Lecturer in Publishing. He takes over as Programme Director for the course in Term Two. He will be leading the module on Authorship in Term One and the module on Ethics in Publishing in Term Two.

Dr Caroline Wintersgill (c.wintersgill@ucl.ac.uk): Caroline is Lecturer in Publishing. She teaches on the Authorship and Editing, Writing and Communication module in Term One and the Academic and Journals Publishing module in Term Two.

Plans from Now Until the Start of Term

We have plenty more information to share with you in the run up to the start of Term One but this is enough for one newsletter!

We have also arranged some drop-in Zoom sessions for our offer holders, so that we have the chance to speak with you all in person and to help us all connect in advance of the course starting. We will be sharing information about the course and discussing any questions you have at these so we hope you will be able to join us. Details are below for the next one, on August 9th, and Ian will send out reminder emails in the lead-up to each session.

Topic: UCL Publishing New Students
Time: Aug 9, 2021 11:00 AM London

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://ucl.zoom.us/j/95734315124?pwd=NFZCdFZhbkhXUUNXU1d6SmFEEd3dSQTO9>

Meeting ID: 957 3431 5124

Passcode: 957543

One tap mobile

+16699006833,,95734315124#,,,,*957543# US (San Jose)

+19292056099,,95734315124#,,,,*957543# US (New York)

Dial by your location

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

Meeting ID: 957 3431 5124

Passcode: 957543

Find your local number: <https://ucl.zoom.us/j/ad0ksleRQ>

We look forward to welcoming you to the Centre for Publishing and the Department of Information Studies very soon!