

New Creative Writing Courses Offered in Summer Term 2026

Dr Christine Lehnen will offer three special Portfolio Creative Writing seminars in the upcoming summer term, focusing on Poetry, Prose, and Scriptwriting respectively. Each course centres on an independent creative project, supported by individual guidance and a small number of group sessions throughout the semester. An important introductory session for each seminar will take place in the first week of term (w/c 6 April 2026) at the times indicated in the seminar descriptions below. Students will then meet the instructor individually over the course of the semester to develop their projects, accompanied by occasional group meetings to discuss writing routines, common challenges, and professional pathways in anglophone literary and media industries.

Applications for all three courses are open until 27 March 2026. It is possible to apply for more than one genre.

There are further Creative Writing modules on offer in the Summer Term, including “On Publishing and Performing” and “Literary Cultures.” Please apply for these in the usual way via Stine.

Below you will find the detailed course descriptions of the Portfolio Modules. We are very much looking forward to your applications!

1. Creative Writing: Independent Project (Poetry) – Weds 10-12

In this seminar, students will independently create a small pamphlet of poems or one long poem. You will receive one-to-one guidance from the seminar leader, whom you will meet three times throughout the semester to develop your project, receive feedback on an excerpt of your work, and to clarify any questions you might have. At the end of the seminar, you will submit your poems to your seminar leader and receive a mark for it. We will also meet as a seminar group to discuss writing routines, challenges you might encounter, and talk about publication and performance routes for poetry in the anglophone literary industry.

If you wish to apply for this course, please send a writing sample of no more than 3 poems and a brief outline of the idea for your poem or poems (no more than 250 words) to Dr Christine Lehnen (christine.lehnen@uni-hamburg.de) by 27 March 2026.

2. Creative Writing: Independent Project (Prose) – Wed 16-18

In this seminar, students will independently create a long piece of prose fiction: either a short story or the opening chapter of a novel. You will receive one-to-one guidance from the seminar leader, whom you will meet three times throughout the semester to develop your project, receive feedback on an excerpt of your work, and to clarify any questions you might have. At the end of the seminar, you will submit your short story or opening chapter to your seminar leader and receive a mark for it. We will also meet as a seminar group to discuss writing routines, challenges you might encounter, and talk about publication routes on the anglophone book market.

If you wish to apply for this course, please send a writing sample of no more than 1000 words and a brief outline of the idea for your prose piece (no more than 250 words) to Dr Christine Lehnen (christine.lehnen@uni-hamburg.de) by 27 March 2026.

3. Creative Writing: Independent Project (Script) – Thurs 8-10

In this seminar, students will independently write a script for a short play, a short film, or a TV episode. You will receive one-to-one guidance from the seminar leader, whom you will meet three times throughout the semester to develop your project, receive feedback on an excerpt of your work, and to clarify any questions you might have. At the end of the seminar, you will submit your poems to your seminar leader and receive a mark for it. We will also meet as a seminar group to discuss writing routines, challenges you might encounter, and talk about performance routes for scriptwriters in the anglophone theatre, film, and television industries.

If you wish to apply for this course, please send a writing sample of no more than 6 pages and a brief outline of the idea for your script (no more than 250 words) to Dr Christine Lehnen (christine.lehnen@uni-hamburg.de) by 27 March 2026.