



Transgressive Writing: Freedom and Experimental Forms

with *Tim Atkins*

COURSE LENGTH:

short course: 4 weeks

TYPE: online, synchronous (live)

LEVEL: all writing levels are welcome

SCREEN TIME:

2 hours/week

WRITING TIME:

2 hours/week

START DATE: 9 September 2026

END DATE: 29 September 2026

TIME: 7PM UK time (7–9:15)

COURSE SCHEDULE:

Wednesdays: 9–23 September
last class on Tuesday 29th

9 September: Who's triggering who? Transgression is about exploring the limits of form and experience

16 September: Form as a method of transgression

23 September: Transgressive writing as a method of challenge

29 September: Transgression is about boundaries: what's on the other side?

EXPLORING LIFE'S LIMITS WITH EXPERIMENTAL FORM: WRITING YOUR WAY INTO FREEDOM.

About the course:

Transgressive writing asks us how we can push boundaries as writers, and what it means to experience life at or beyond acceptable limits. Transgression is about asking questions—questions of ourselves and of our readers. In this short course, we'll look at the work of Kathy Acker, Charles Baudelaire, Dodie Bellamy and others. We'll develop an understanding of their ideas and methods, and create our own pieces that explore the territory of transgression—all of which will occur in a respectful and supportive writing environment. Is transgression really only about liberation?—let's see: you will start writing from day one. This course is aimed at poetry aficionados and writers who want to start writing in an innovative way—and explore their place both in their hearts and the world. What is on the other side? What does that even mean? Dive in and find out.

What to expect:

The course will mix a multimedia-based lecture with a workshop. You will write and get feedback at each lesson; at the end of the course, you will have created a portfolio of transgressive poems.

This course will look at different forms, such as:

- found text poetry (erasure and collage)
- prose poems
- typewriter & visual poetry

- six-word poems
- poetic games and interactive poetry
- the poetry of forms and marks

You will expand your knowledge of contemporary poets too, including Sean Bonney, Dodie Bellamy, Britteney Black Rose Kapri, and many more!

Please note you have to be over 18 to join our courses.

Concessions:

Please send relevant documentation should you wish to apply for our concession rates or one of our bursaries. We offer a discount of 25% or more to anyone eligible. You can read more about the eligibility and how to apply in the 'Support' section of our website. Please email us at admin@experimentalwriting.school if you need further help or have any questions.

About Tim Atkins:

Tim is the author of many books, including *Atkins Collected Petrarch* (a Times Literary Supplement and Salon.com book of the year), *Folklore* (A Daily Telegraph Book of the Year), *Deep Osaka* (a photobook), *Koto Y Yo* (all from Crater Press), *On Fathers < On Daughtys* (Boiler House Press), *25 Sonnets* (The Figures, USA), *Petrarch* (Book Thug, Canada), and *Horace* (O Books, USA). He is also the author of a play: *The World's Furious Song Flows Through My Skirt* (Stoma Press), and a novel *The Bath-Tub* (forthcoming from Boiler House Press). He has read and performed his work in the Houses of Parliament (for Pussy Riot), in concert at the Victoria & Albert Museum, and all over North America and Europe. His work has been translated into Spanish, Japanese, Catalan, French, and Lithuanian. *Mother*—a collaborative film-poem made with Graeme Maguire—was a finalist at the Cyclop International Videopoetry Festival and at the Rabbit Heart Film festival in 2014. He has been a member of the summer faculty at The Jack Kerouac School of Disembodied Poetics at Naropa University, and a member of Carla Harryman's Poets' Theatre in San Francisco. He also acted in many of Kevin Killian's poet's plays in San Francisco between 1993-5. His poems have appeared in many anthologies, including *The Penguin Book of the Prose Poem* (2018), *The Reality Street Book of the Sonnet*, and Faber's *The Thunder Mutters* (edited by Alice Oswald). A collaboration with his daughter, Yuki Lily Matsubayashi Atkins, *A Girl Is A Machine Made Of Birds* was published in 2019. He is the co-founder and editor of the long-running international online poetry journal, *onedit*. His most recent book *Nothing Conclusive Has Yet Taken Place In The World The Ultimate Word Of The World And About The World Has Not Yet Been Spoken The World Is Open And Free Everything Is Still In The Future And*

Will Always Be was published by Crater Press in June 2022. Also in 2022, a volume—called *Apropos of Nothing*—of interviews and critical texts by American, Canadian, French and English poets and scholars was published on his work. His most recent work (in progress) is *Autobiographical Incident Sonnets*, a work of Buddhist fiction. A teacher with over 20 years' experience, he won Innovative Teacher of the Year awards at UEL every year from 2010-2016, and in 2019 was voted Best University Lecturer by the student union at Roehampton. Students who he has taught Creative Writing to include the award-winning authors Danielle Jawando and Nathanael Lessor.