

PALAEOGRAPHY BY POST OR E-MAIL

The Society offers members a ‘correspondence’ course for beginners or near-beginners who wish to read fifteenth-century hand-writing. The full course consists of eight lessons which can be paid for in two modules of four if desired. Each lesson includes sample texts with a commentary drawing attention to such matters as abbreviations and characteristic letter shapes and to any particular problems. Part of the sample material will be fully transcribed; the student will be expected to transcribe the remainder and return it for correction and comment.

Students work at their own speed and no deadlines are imposed. When an assignment has been completed and sent to the tutor, the corrected version is returned with the next lesson. The course can therefore take as much, or as little, time as the student is able to spare. It should be noted, however, that like all ‘hobbies’ it takes a while to acquire the new skill and perseverance is necessary.

The course can be taken by post, or by email, or by a combination of the two. Thus, assignments can be returned as email attachments, then corrected by the tutor, and posted back with the next lesson. Alternatively, all documents and commentaries can be posted as hardcopies, or emailed as pdfs.

The cost of the course is £27.50 for each module of 4 lessons, payable in advance. There is an additional cost for overseas postage, but, needless to say, there is no postage supplement if the course is taken wholly online.