

Cryptic Crosswords for Beginners: course outline

Many people do quick crosswords regularly, but don't know how to solve cryptic crosswords and would like to learn.

This course provides a structured learning programme for beginners, starting with the simplest ideas and types of cryptic clue and progressing to the more advanced aspects of clue solving. The course blends practical activities with theory, enabling learners to build their skills and knowledge step by step. It is taught in small groups of up to 15, so that everyone can ask questions, make contributions and learn from others.

A structured learning programme

The course comprises six modules that form a natural programme of learning:

- Getting started
- Essential building blocks
- More about clue structure
- Completing the itinerary of clue types
- Tackling trickier clues
- Developing your solving skills further

Flexible course delivery

The course can be delivered in the following formats:

- a six-week course, consisting of six 1-½ hour sessions
- a weekend course
- a one-day course

Course attendees will be able to obtain a copy of the book *Learn How To Solve Cryptic Crosswords* at a special discount. This book includes all the theory covered in the course, provides practice clues and puzzles to reinforce the key learning points, and has a comprehensive reference section of solving tools.

Learning outcomes

At the end of the course, attendees will understand how cryptic clues work, be able to solve the easier puzzles that are published, and know how to develop their solving skills further.

About the tutor

Henry Howarth is an accomplished, qualified teacher who has taught more than 100 adults how to solve cryptic crosswords. He has a lifelong interest in crosswords and has published puzzles in magazines. Henry is the author of *Learn How to Solve Cryptic Crosswords: A Course for Beginners*.