Peter Ford was one of the first doctoral students at the new University of Sussex. He subsequently spent nearly ten years working on the Continent, another ten years at the University of the Witwatersand in South Africa and twenty years at the University of Bath. He has given a large number of lectures in schools both at primary and secondary level. In 2008, he was awarded an MBE in the Queen's New Year Honours List for "services to higher education and science".