



School of Liberal Arts
CRWR 202
Introduction to Creative Writing 2
Winter 2023
3 Credits

Course Outline

INSTRUCTOR: Jamella Hagen, MFA

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OFFICE HOURS: by appointment

DATES: Jan. 9 – Apr. 12, 2022

CLASS: Zoom virtual classroom

TIME: Mondays, 7-9pm plus independent Moodle activities

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Introduces beginning writers to the writing of two creative writing genres (varies per term). The study and development of craft, the exploration of voice, and the acquisition of critiquing skills are emphasized.

“Create a kind of dream in the reader’s mind.” –John Gardiner

This course introduces the writing of fiction and creative nonfiction. The course will include selected readings by contemporary writers, short lectures and discussions of the writing craft, in-class writing exercises, and workshop discussions of students’ own creative pieces. We will also briefly touch on publishing and developing portfolios for future study, but the emphasis will be on students’ current writing projects. Regular attendance and commitment to deadlines are essential in this course, but topics are open and creative exploration is our focus.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Prerequisite(s): Prerequisite(s): Six credits of university-level composition and/or literature.

This class will run online weekly using Moodle and Zoom. Assignments will be submitted on Moodle in Microsoft Word. Access to a computer (with audio and video capability) and internet access is important.

EQUIVALENCY OR TRANSFERABILITY

Receiving institutions determine course transferability. Find further information at:

<https://www.yukonu.ca/admissions/transfer-credit>

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of the course, students will be able to:

- write original fiction and creative nonfiction;

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- critique written fiction and creative nonfiction from an editorial perspective based on the requirements of craft;
- revise fiction and creative nonfiction as part of an editorial process;
- analyze literature from a writer’s perspective and describe the effects of authorial choices such as narrative structure, syntax, and point of view.

COURSE FORMAT

This course will be delivered in a blended online format through a Zoom video classroom and a Moodle online course page. Students will attend a Zoom class on Mondays for 2 hours from 7pm – 9pm, and will also complete online writing exercises and reading responses in Moodle that will take about 1 hour per week. In addition, students can expect to spend about 6 hours per week outside of class time on reading and writing assignments. It is important to note that the time required will vary by individual.

Zoom classes will feature lectures, discussions of course readings, and workshops of student writing. During writing workshops, the instructor will facilitate discussion of students’ written assignments. The aim will be to recognize the strengths and possibilities of the piece under discussion, and to offer suggestions for revision. All feedback should be generous and specific, and should be provided in support of both the writer and the piece of writing under discussion. In addition, the course will feature weekly readings of creative work by professional writers.

EVALUATION

Attendance and Participation

Active participation in this course is fundamental to developing a constructive, creative environment and achieving course learning outcomes. For this reason, class participation in the form of contributions to in-class and online discussion as well as completion of writing exercises is worth 20% of the course grade.

Assignments

This course includes three major writing assignments, as well as frequent online writing exercises. Assignments will normally be discussed in class a few days after they are handed in. As class discussion is frequently based on students’ work, all assignments must be completed and submitted on Moodle by the due date, in Microsoft Word format.

Readings

Reading is integral to the writing process, and this course incorporates a variety of assigned readings by professional writers. In addition, students will be expected to read the work of their fellow students and provide constructive written feedback. All assigned readings and written critiques must be completed before their scheduled discussions.

Final Portfolio

There will be no final examination in this course. Instead, students will submit an end-of-term portfolio consisting of the three required writing assignments, two of which must be revisions. Revisions will be based on in-class discussion and written comments.

EVALUATION

Writing Assignments Assignment 1: Fiction (1500-5000 words) Assignment 2: Nonfiction (1500-5000 words)	80%
Portfolio Assignment 1 revised Assignment 2 revised Assignment 3: Open (see above for length)	
Class participation	
Total	
	20%
	100%

COURSE WITHDRAWAL INFORMATION

Refer to the YukonU website for important dates.

TEXTBOOKS & LEARNING MATERIALS

All readings and class resources will be posted on Moodle.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Students are expected to contribute toward a positive and supportive environment and are required to conduct themselves in a responsible manner. Academic misconduct includes all forms of academic dishonesty such as cheating, plagiarism, fabrication, fraud, deceit, using the work of others without their permission, aiding other students in committing academic offences, misrepresenting academic assignments prepared by others as one's own, or any other forms of academic dishonesty including falsification of any information on any Yukon University document.

Please refer to Academic Regulations & Procedures for further details about academic standing and student rights and responsibilities.

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION

Reasonable accommodations are available for students requiring an academic accommodation to fully participate in this class. These accommodations are available for students with a documented disability,

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chronic condition or any other grounds specified in section 8.0 of the Yukon University Academic Regulations (available on the Yukon University website). It is the student's responsibility to seek these accommodations by contacting the Learning Assistance Centre (LAC): LearningAssistanceCentre@yukonu.ca.

TOPIC OUTLINE

Week / Module	Readings and Assignments
1. Introductions	All readings posted on Moodle
2. Situating Ourselves as Northern Writers	Assignment #1 Fiction: Due dates will vary by student
3. Fiction: Craft, Culture, Perspectives & Point of View	
4. Fiction: Setting	
5. Fiction: Structure	
6. Fiction: Character	
7. Fiction: Development and Revision	Assignment #2 Nonfiction: Due dates will vary by student
8. Reading Week	
9. Introduction to Creative Nonfiction	
10. Creative Nonfiction: Getting Started	
11. Creative Nonfiction: Description, Dialogue, Point of view	
12. Creative Nonfiction: Memoir and Personal Essay	
13. Creative Nonfiction: What Is Real?	
14. Future Directions: Writing Portfolios, Publications, Public Readings	Final Portfolio Due April 12