



COURSE OUTLINE

CRWR 201

INTRODUCTION TO CREATIVE WRITING I

45 HOURS
3 CREDITS

PREPARED BY: _____
Jamella Hagen, Instructor

DATE: _____

APPROVED BY: ALR
Dr. Andrew Richardson, Dean

DATE: _____

YUKON COLLEGE

Copyright November, 2014

All right reserved. No part of this material covered by this copyright may be reproduced or utilized in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, traded, or rented or resold, without written permission from Yukon College.

Course Outline prepared by Jamella Hagen, November 21, 2014

Yukon College
P.O. Box 2799
Whitehorse, YT
Y1A 5K



APPLIED ARTS DIVISION
Introduction to Creative Writing 1
Credit Course
Winter, 2015

INTRODUCTION TO CREATIVE WRITING 1

INSTRUCTOR: Jamella Hagen, MFA

OFFICE HOURS: By appointment

OFFICE LOCATION:

CLASSROOM: A2101

E-MAIL: jhagen@yukoncollege.yk.ca

TIME: 7:00 - 10:00 p.m.

TELEPHONE: (867) 668-8770

DATES: Mondays

COURSE CALENDAR 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.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

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

This course introduces the writing of fiction and poetry. The course will include selected readings by contemporary fiction writers and poets, 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. Attendance is essential and deadlines are sacred in this course, but topics are open and creative exploration is our focus.

PREREQUISITES

Six credits of university-level composition and/or literature.

EQUIVALENCY OR TRANSFERABILITY

CAMO CRWR 100 lev (3) KWAN CRWR 1100 (3) SFU GE 1CRWRIT (3)
TRU ENGL 2xx0 (3) TRU-OL ENGL 2xx1 (3) TWU ENGL 207 (3)
UBC Any two of YUKO CRWR 201, YUKO CRWR 202, YUKO CRWR 241 = UBC
CRWR 202 (6) See BC Transfer guide for further notes.
UBCO ENGL 2nd (3) UFV GE 1xx (3) UNBC ENGL 2xx (3)
UVIC WRIT 100 lev (1.5) VIU CREW 1st (3)

LEARNING OUTCOMES

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

- write original fiction and poetry
- critique written fiction and poetry from an editorial perspective based on the requirements of craft
- revise fiction and poetry as part of an editorial process
- analyse 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 consist of one three-hour seminar per week, which will include short lectures and discussion of the writing craft, in-class writing exercises, and writing workshops. 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.

ASSESSMENTS

Readings

Reading is integral to the writing process, and this course involves a variety of assigned readings by professional writers. In addition, students will be expected to read the work of fellow students and provide constructive written feedback. All assigned readings and written critiques must be completed before the class in which they are scheduled for discussion.

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 class discussion and completion of in-class writing exercises is worth 20% of the course grade.

Assignments

This course includes four writing assignments. Assignments will normally be discussed in class the week after they are handed in. Photocopies of each

assignment for the instructor and for all students in the class will be required to facilitate discussion. As class discussion is frequently based on students' work, all assignments must be completed and handed in on the due date.

Final Portfolio

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

EVALUATION

Writing Assignments	80%
Assignment 1: Fiction (500-3000 words)	
Assignment 2: Fiction (500-3000 words)	
Assignment 3: Poetry (2-3 pages or 30-120 lines)	
Assignment 4: Open (see above for length)	
Revision 1 (writer's choice from assignments 1-4)	
Revision 2 (writer's choice from assignments 1-4)	
Class participation	20%
Total	100%

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS AND MATERIALS

Creative Writing 201 Custom Course Package

RECOMMENDED TEXTS

Writing Fiction: A Guide to Narrative Craft (8th Edition) by Janet Burroway, Elizabeth Stuckey-French and Ned Stuckey-French

A Poetry Handbook by Mary Oliver

PLAGIARISM

Plagiarism is a serious academic offence. Plagiarism occurs when students present the words of someone else as their own. Plagiarism can be the deliberate use of a whole piece of another person's writing, but more frequently it occurs when students fail to acknowledge and document sources from which they have taken material. Whenever the words, research or ideas of others are directly quoted or paraphrased, they must be documented according to an accepted manuscript style (e.g., APA, CSE, MLA, etc.). Resubmitting a paper which has previously received credit is also considered plagiarism. Students who plagiarize material for assignments will receive a mark of zero (F) on the assignment and may fail the course. Plagiarism may also result in dismissal from a program of study or the College.

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, chronic condition or any other grounds specified in section 8.0 of the Yukon College Academic Regulations (available on the Yukon College website). It is the student's responsibility to seek these accommodations. If a student requires an academic accommodation, he/she should contact the Learning Assistance Centre (LAC) at (867) 668-8785 or lassist@yukoncollege.yk.ca.

WRITING CENTRE

All students are encouraged to make the Writing Centre a regular part of the writing process for coursework. Located in C2231 (adjacent the College Library), the Writing Centre offers half-hour writing coaching sessions to students of all writing abilities. Coaching sessions are available in person and through distance technologies (e.g., email plus Skype or phone). For further information or to book an appointment, visit the Centre's website:
www.yukoncollege.yk.ca/student_info/pages/writing_centre.

Creative Writing 201
Course Schedule • Winter 2015

Course Text: Creative Writing 201 Custom Course Package

**Note: Remember that readings are to be completed before they are scheduled for in-class discussion.*

**Note 2: This course schedule is intended as a guide. The instructor may make changes during the semester if needed.*

Week 1: January 5

Introduction to Creative Writing 201

- Course outline, schedule and assignments
- Introductory Writing Exercise: Image
- The Writing Process

Reading & Discussion:

- "A Word About Your Workshop," Janet Burroway

Week 2: January 12

Introduction to Writing Fiction

Reading & Discussion:

- "Kumakuk," Joseph Boyden
- "Rich as Stink," Alice Munro
- "Rock Springs," Richard Ford

Week 3: January 19

Fiction: Character

Reading & Discussion:

- "Characterization," Janet Burroway

Workshop:

- Assignment 1: Fiction

Week 4: January 26

Fiction: Story

Reading & Discussion:

- "The Story Spectrum," Robert McKee

Workshop:

- Assignment 1: Fiction

Week 5: February 2

Fiction: Point of View

Readings & Discussion:

- "Viewpoint: Who's Seeing This?" Stephen Minot

Workshop

- Assignment 1: Fiction

Week 6: February 9**Fiction: Invention & Voice**

Reading & Discussion:

- “What is Real,” Alice Munro

Workshop:

- Assignment 2: Fiction

Week 7: February 16**Fiction: Revision**

Readings & Discussion:

- “Some Thoughts on Revising,” Jack Hodgins

Workshop:

- Assignment 2: Fiction

Week 8: February 23**Introduction to Poetry**

Readings & Discussion:

- Poems:
 - “Home of Sudden Service,” Elizabeth Bachinsky
 - “Song for the Song of the Varied Thrush,” Don McKay
 - “Audubon,” Anne Carson
 - “We Don’t Hate Her,” Joanna Lilley
 - “A Song Like Heels Clicking,” Clea Roberts
 - “A-Frame,” Michael Eden Reynolds
 - “Ghost Stories Written as Algebraic Equations,” Charles Simic
 - “Mushrooms,” Sylvia Plath
 - “Forgetfulness,” Billy Collins
 - “Do Not Go Gentle Into That Good Night,” Dylan Thomas

Workshop:

- Assignment 2: Fiction

Week 9: March 2**Poetry: Imagery**

Readings & Discussion

- “Poetry,” Janet Burroway

Workshop

- Assignment 3: Poetry

Week 10: March 9

Poetry: Form, Voice, Line, Diction, Sound

Readings:

- “Poems by Type,” Mary Oliver

Workshop:

- Assignment 3: Poetry

READING WEEK: March 16-20 (no classes)

Week 11: March 23

Poetry: Development and Revision

Readings & Discussion:

- “Finding the Form: A Revision Narrative,” Diane Thiel

Workshop:

- Assignment 4: Open

Week 12: March 30

Future Directions: Writing Programs, Public Readings, Publication

Discussion:

- Writing programs, public readings, publication

Workshop:

- Assignment 4: Open

□ **FINAL PORTFOLIO** due Monday, April 20, 2015