



THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Faculty of Creative and Critical Studies

Okanagan Campus

FACULTY OF CREATIVE AND CRITICAL STUDIES DEPARTMENT OF CREATIVE STUDIES

2021 Winter Term 1

Introduction to Writing Fiction and Drama, 3 credits

CRWR 160-002

The Faculty of Creative and Critical Studies acknowledges that the land on which we are situated is the unceded territory of the Syilx (Okanagan) People.

Instructor: Nick Tooke

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Office hours: Mondays 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Office: CCR 152

TAs: Andisha Sabri

Justin Madu

Mandy Wallace

Academic Calendar Entry

Introduction to composition and experimentation in the genres of fiction and drama. Students will develop a working knowledge of modern aesthetics in fiction and drama, as well as an objective appreciation of their own "voice" in the context of those aesthetics. No more than 6 credits in total will be granted for CRWR 116, CRWR 126, CRWR 150, CRWR 160. [3-0-0] or [1-0-2]

Course Format

This section of CRWR 160 (002) will be taught in person, unless otherwise specified by the instructor. Attendance is mandatory. In person instruction will take place on Mondays and Wednesdays, from 9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. in ART 114. Bring a notebook or binder and writing materials to the first class, and to every class thereafter. You will spend a significant amount of time writing in class. Six sessions will be devoted to supervised writing workshops in which students will read and comment on each other's writing. The goal of the workshop is to give the author an idea of how their work is being read and understood so that they may use that information as they revise, expand, develop, and refine their writing assignments.

Course Overview, Content and Objectives

Through in-class lectures, readings, and your own attempts at writing, students will learn how to create compelling narrative in the forms of both short fiction and drama. Some of the techniques to be covered will include the use of imagery and specific detail, the creation of believable characters, the various uses of point of view, setting, structure, and writing effective dialogue.



Learning Outcomes

After completing this course, students will be able to:

- Demonstrate an understanding of various types of narrative
- Identify and apply writing techniques and strategies used by successful writers of prose and drama.
- Understand some of the processes and habits with which active writers engage.
- Be able to edit their own work, and constructively edit the work of others.
- Complete a polished and revised portfolio in both genres.

Evaluation Criteria and Grading

- Written assignments: Total: 80% You will be required to hand in three pieces of original writing, two of which will be workshopped and then re-written for a further percentage. *Re-writing* is fundamental to good writing.
- Participation. Total 20% (Peer reviewed) You will be required to read the work of other students and hand in a written evaluation of their work according to a provided template. Your participation grade will be evaluated by your peers *and* your instructor or TA, on both the diligence of your written evaluation and your active participation the workshop.
- There is no final examination for this course
 - 1) The postcard story (300-500 words) 10%
 - 2) The Short story (1200-1800 words) 15%
 - 3) A monologue (800-1000 words) or short play (1500-2000 words) 15%
 - 4) Revision of The Short Story (after workshop) 20%
 - 5) Revision of the monologue or short play (after workshop) 20%

Assignments 1 to 3 must be different, original pieces of work. You are encouraged to use, and expand upon what you discover during the in-class writing assignments. The re-written short story and re-written short play or monologue must demonstrate significant evidence of revision. Submissions that are too long will not necessarily be completely read or edited. Submissions that fall (significantly) short of the minimums will be penalized. Submissions must be properly formatted (examples on Canvas) and proof-read. Do not submit old material, previously published material, or material already workshopped in another class. Submit your manuscript on Canvas on the proper due date. There will be a penalty for late submissions unless you contact me directly and provide a compelling explanation. Late submissions will be read, but will not receive feedback.

An 'A+' submission should have all of these qualities:

- Publishable or near publishable: work that is both original and surprising, sophisticated in both technique and intellectual/emotional storytelling.
- Writing that is polished, that employs imagery, visual storytelling, and presents compelling, believable characters.
- Dialogue that uses subtext and makes the best use of the chosen literary genre
- Sound grammar and formatting

An A- to A submission should have most of the above qualities. B range should demonstrate some of these qualities. C- and D range demonstrates few of these qualities. An F grade is for completely inadequate work or for no submission at all.



Content Advisory policy

Each assignment should demonstrate your strongest writing. While I encourage creativity and taking risks, please be aware that some types of writing do not fulfill the requirements of assignments for this course. They include, but are not limited to:

- Academic writing
- Personal Journaling
- Writing about having to write something for this class
- Writing about your TAs or instructor
- Writing about fellow students
- Depictions of school shootings
- Writing about your grades

If you plan to submit work that depicts sexualized, racialized, or gendered violence, please speak with me before starting your draft.

The Worskhop

Part of being a good writer is learning how to give and receive feedback. The workshop is an imperfect model, but if conducted with diligence and integrity, the experience can be invaluable. It is vital for the successful functioning of the workshop that you hand in your evaluations on time, and 'show up' in every meaning of the phrase. Every student manuscript you read deserves the same attention you give to your own work, and to that end, students who are unprepared and have not completed their required workshop evaluations will be penalized.

Required Readings and Videos

You do not have to purchase a textbook for this course. Required readings will be scheduled and posted to Canvas. The majority are short stories, monologues, or short plays, (no novels or long plays). However, in order to get the most out of each exercise, you are strongly encouraged to read each narrative at least twice before coming to class.

Course Schedule

The weekly course and assignment schedule will be posted to Canvas in the module section.

Aboriginal Programs and Services

The primary goal of the Aboriginal Programs and Services is to provide culturally appropriate services and support to First Nation, Metis and Inuit students. Please contact us if you have any questions or inquiries. Web: <http://students.ok.ubc.ca/aboriginal/welcome.html>

International Programs and Services

International Programs and Services (IPS) provides advising, transition services and programs for international students, and IPS works to foster an intercultural campus community where differences are embraced and respected and adapting is multidirectional. In response to COVID-19, International Program and Services have put together a page with important resources and frequently asked questions regarding immigration and health insurance. Web: <http://students.ok.ubc.ca/international/welcome.html>



Academic Integrity

The academic enterprise is founded on honesty, civility, and integrity. As members of this enterprise, all students are expected to know, understand, and follow the codes of conduct regarding academic integrity. At the most basic level, this means submitting only original work done by you and acknowledging all sources of information or ideas and attributing them to others as required. This also means you should not cheat, copy, or mislead others about what is your work. Violations of academic integrity (i.e., misconduct) lead to the breakdown of the academic enterprise, and therefore serious consequences arise and harsh sanctions are imposed. For example, incidences of plagiarism or cheating may result in a mark of zero on the assignment or exam and more serious consequences may apply if the matter is referred to the President's Advisory Committee on Student Discipline. Careful records are kept in order to monitor and prevent recurrences.

A more detailed description of academic integrity, including the University's policies and procedures, may be found in the Academic Calendar at:

<http://okanagan.students.ubc.ca/calendar/index.cfm?tree=3,54,111,0>.

And on the FCCS site here: <https://fcss.ok.ubc.ca/student-resources/academic-integrity/>

Student Learning Hub

The Student Learning Hub (LIB 237) is your go-to resource for free math, science, writing, and language learning support. The Hub welcomes undergraduate students from all disciplines and year levels to access a range of supports that include **tutoring in math, sciences, languages, and writing, as well as help with study skills and learning strategies**. For more information, please visit the Hub's website (<https://students.ok.ubc.ca/student-learning-hub/>) or call 250-807-9185.

Academic Integrity Matters (AIM) Program

AIM is a program that provides help with academic integrity (AI) issues for undergraduate and graduate students. Please contact the Student Learning Hub (<https://students.ok.ubc.ca/student-learning-hub/>) and ask specifically for an AIM appointment.

Library Information

The **Library** is available for research support and can be accessed [here](#).

UBC Okanagan Disability Resource Centre

The Disability Resource Centre ensures educational equity for students with disabilities and chronic medical conditions. If you require academic accommodations, please contact the Disability Resource Centre located in the University Centre building (UNC 214).

General inquiries or students new to the DRC can reach us by emailing drc.questions@ubc.ca

Web: <http://students.ok.ubc.ca/drc/welcome.html>

UBC Okanagan Equity and Inclusion Office

Through leadership, vision, and collaborative action, the Equity & Inclusion Office (EIO) develops action strategies in support of efforts to embed equity and inclusion in the daily operations across the campus. The EIO provides education and training from cultivating respectful, inclusive spaces and communities to understanding unconscious/implicit bias and its operation within in campus environments. UBC Policy 3 prohibits discrimination and harassment on the basis of BC's Human Rights Code. If you require assistance related to an issue of equity, educational programs, discrimination or harassment please contact the EIO (UNC 216).

Email: equity.ubco@ubc.ca

Web: www.equity.ok.ubc.ca



Health & Wellness

Health and Wellness offers a range of student health and wellness services, including a health clinic, counsellors, and health promotion programs. Students are encouraged to stay at home if they have a minor or communicable illness (such as flu-like symptoms) to prevent further spread of illness to other students, staff, or faculty. If students are too ill to attend class, the student should contact the instructor immediately and submit a “Self Declaration of Absence Due to Illness or Injury” form: [Student Declaration of Absence Due to Illness or Injury \(PDF\)](#)

Please note: Use of the self-declaration form during the final exam period is not accepted—students are advised to communicate directly with their instructor if they are sick and unable to write final examinations. This declaration is not an exemption from any exams, papers, or projects that were missed during the time of absence and does not modify any academic obligations.

If students would like to access a UBC physician, nurse or counsellor, please call our office at 250 807-9270 or visit our website: <https://students.ok.ubc.ca/health-wellness/>

The UBC Student Assistance Program (SAP) is a free, 24/7 wellness resource for students. Services include personal counselling, life coaching, group programs and more, based on your needs:

<https://students.ok.ubc.ca/health-wellness/student-assistance-program/>

FCCS Communications Portal

Consider signing up for our FCCS Communications portal for students in our undergraduate and graduate programs in Canvas.

This one-stop space will be used to keep students informed and up to date with important information related to your academic matters as well as updated on FCCS and campus events.

Self enrol: <https://canvas.ubc.ca/enroll/3KBYFY>

SAFEWALK

Don't want to walk alone at night? Not too sure how to get somewhere on campus? Call Safewalk at 250.807.8076. For more information, visit: <http://security.ok.ubc.ca/welcome.html>