

Preliminary Web Course Description

*Please note: This is a preliminary web course description only. The department reserves the right to change without notice any information in this description. The final, binding course outline will be distributed in the first class of the semester.

School of English and Theatre Studies

Course Code: ENGL *3090	Course Title: Special Topics in Creative Writing Workshop	Date of Offering: FALL 2018
----------------------------	--	---------------------------------------

Course Professor: Lawrence Hill	Course Format: Workshop
---------------------------------	-------------------------

Brief Course Synopsis: Writing autobiography and creative essays

Students will write creative essays and autobiographical portraits, share them with peers, offer constructive and respectful evaluations of their peers' work, and submit one revision. Each week, students will read at least one excerpt of a professionally published creative essay or autobiography, and assess it from intellectual, ethical and especially artistic perspectives. Is the material engaging, dynamic, authentic and believable? What sort of risks is the writer taking? Which writing styles prove most effective, and why? Which literary approaches engage the reader less successfully, and why? What fictional techniques do some of these writers bring to bear in creating non-fiction? Students will be encouraged to borrow from, experiment with and playfully alter some of the creative writing techniques displayed by the professional writers.

Methods of Evaluation and Weight:

Writing Exercise 1 (500 - 750 words): 10 %
Writing Exercise 2 (750 - 1,000 words): 10 %
Autobiographical Portrait (1,500 - 2,000 words): 20 %
Creative Essay (2,000 -3,000 words): 20 %
Revision of Autobiographical Portrait: 10 %
Peer Evaluation: 15 %
Workshop Participation: 15 %

Texts and/or Resources Required (e.g. Internet access, specific textbook title, lab kit, etc.)

Students will read the work of their peers and use a course pack drawing from:

Best Canadian Essays, Eds. C Doda and J Kertes, Tightrope Books (2016)
The Best American Essays, Ed. J Franzen, Houghton Mifflin Harcourt (2016)
The Classic Slave Narratives, Ed. HL Gates, Signet Classics (2012)
Southern Selves: A Collection of Autobiographical Writings, Ed. JH Watkins, Vintage (1998)
Bad Feminist, Roxane Gay, Harper Perennial (2014)

Other information that you wish share about the course (optional):

List the distribution requirements that this course fulfills: