

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*4720	Course Title: Creative Writing: Prose/Poetry	Date of Offering: FALL 2016
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Course Instructor: Lawrence Hill	Course Format: Workshop
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Brief Course Synopsis: This advanced fiction writing workshop will involve writing fiction, and in a supportive workshop environment, sharing one's own writing and commenting constructively on the writing of other students. The workshop will emphasize the importance of revision and second drafts. There will be assigned readings to stimulate discussion about literary techniques such as dialogue, voice, point of view, narrative approaches and story structure. Students will be quizzed regularly on the readings, to ensure full participation. Considerate, mature, constructive criticism of others' works will be emphasized.

Methods of Evaluation:

One short story or segment of longer work (first draft and revision): each 1,500 - 3,500 words

Two writing exercises (a first draft and a revision): each 500 - 1,500 words

Quizzes on reading

Constructive feedback in workshops

Weight:

Creative writing (first drafts) 30 %

Creative writing (revisions and second drafts) 30 %

Quizzes on assigned reading 20 %

Quality of constructive feedback to workshop participants 20 %

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

Subject to change.

Writing Fiction: A Guide to Narrative, Editors: J. Burroway, E. Stuckey-French, N. Stuckey-French (Longman, 9th edition, 2014)

The Best American Short Stories, Editor: T.C. Boyle (Mariner Books, 2015)

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

Admission Requirements:

Only students who have completed either ENGL*2920 or ENGL*2940 can apply for admission.

The following portfolio is to be emailed after July 15 and before August 1, 2016.

Please email to: lhill03@uoguelph.ca

1) A portfolio containing a sample of at least three but no more than ten double-spaced pages of fiction for review. You should submit a short story or part of a longer piece, or a narrative description using fictional devices.

2) A cover letter with your name, email address, student number, and major.

Note: There are a limited number of spaces in this course, and we cannot guarantee that everyone who submits a portfolio will be admitted. Therefore, **we recommend that you choose an alternate course during the course selection period** in March. A list of students who have been admitted will be available before the fall add/drop period. Those students who have been admitted to the course will have to drop the alternate course and add ENGL*4720 during the Drop/Add period. (Signatures to add the course can be obtained from either the instructor or an English advisor).