School of English and Theatre Studies

Course Code: CRWR 6600  
Course Title: PLENARY, WRITERS ON WRITING  
Date of Offering: Fall 2022

Course Instructor: Canisia Lubrin  
Course Format: Seminar

Brief Course Synopsis:
In Writers on Writing students will vigorously debate issues of form and craft as articulated in the writing of a diverse range of writers including Natalie Diaz, Dionne Brand, Young Jean Lee, Renee Gladman, Vivian Gornick and Ursula K. LeGuin. As such, students will engage rigorously with course readings to examine the many ways that writers understand and describe their own creative processes, techniques, aims, and engagements with a range of subjects including strategies for generating work, conceptual frameworks for creation, questions of form including fluidity between forms, and the use of formal constraints in creation. Each week the readings are gathered under a thematically constructed rubric which will focus the week’s discussion. Students are asked to consider both the readings and their own writing practice in light of these thematic frames. Further notes to guide reading may be provided in advance of each week’s class by the instructor. Our aim collectively is to use the specificity of where we write from in order to provoke curiosity, to look inward and outward and to think deeply with each other. These signposts will guide our conversations about both what it means to be a writer and what we adhere to in our chosen form/s.

Methods of Evaluation and Weight:
- Seminar/Class Presentation: 30 percent  
- Participation: 30 percent  
- Final Paper: 40 percent

Texts and/or Resources Required (e.g. Internet access, specific textbook title, lab kit, etc.)
4. Elissa Washuta and Theresa Warburton (eds.), Shapes of Native Nonfiction: Collected Essays by Contemporary Writers  
This course counts towards the following distribution requirement(s) for students who registered at the University prior to the Fall of 2018:

Information about mode of delivery (synchronous/asynchronous/other details):

In-Person, with some flexibility for virtual synchronous/asynchronous components.

*Students who registered at the University of Guelph after Fall 2018 must fulfill the “new” major and minor requirements. Students who registered at the University of Guelph prior to Fall 2018 must fulfill the requirements of the Calendar in effect when they first enrolled unless they have filed a Schedule of Studies Change Request to change to the 2018-2019 calendar. For more information, please consult the major and minor checklists at https://www.uoguelph.ca/arts/sets/undergraduate/english/current-student-information.