

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*2920 (01)	Course Title: Elements of Creative Writing	Date of Offering: F'20
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Course Instructor: Elaine Chang	Course Format: Remote; synchronous (1-2 hrs per week)
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Brief Course Synopsis:

This course invites students to explore fundamental elements of creative writing, understood as an ongoing, layered (and not linear) process: e.g., story construction, character development, voice and perspective, figural language, imagery, theme, structure, form, drafting and revision. Working across the primary genres of poetry, prose narrative (fiction and creative nonfiction) and rudimentary screenwriting—disciplines represented in the Creative Writing minor—students will examine varied, effective examples of literary, film and TV/video/digital media, improving skills in attentive, critically astute reading and reception that are essential to the creation of one's own original work for an external audience. Student writing will include brief and informal learning activities inside and outside of class, the drafting and revising of short works, constructive peer feedback and the preparation and submission of a final portfolio.

Methods of Evaluation and Weight: (SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

In-class Learning Activities (LAB): 15%

Take-home Learning activities (GYM): 20%

3 x Short Writing Assignments (sonnet, song, cinematic monologue): 30%

15-page Portfolio (to include approx. 5-page prose narrative piece): 35%

Note: You will produce approximately 3,000 words of polished prose; and/or the equivalent in non-prose or hybrid media such as poetry, screenwriting, and flash fiction. You are encouraged to experiment in all major genres to determine which single or multiple form(s) serve your creative, expressive purposes to best advantage.

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

Nancy Pagh, *Write Moves: A Creative Writing Guide and Anthology*.

CourseLink: exercise and assignment guidelines, discussion forums, required and supplementary reading and viewing materials (including selections on Ares Course e-Reserve).

Your own notebooks or separate PDF files for handwritten or computer-composed exercises.

(Note: if handwritten, you will be asked to submit JPG scans to Dropbox for marking.)

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

You are expected to participate in approx. up to 2 hours per week in synchronous course activities during scheduled class time, such as peer discussion and feedback work (moderated or unmoderated) or plenary discussions with the entire class and instructor. You may also be required to work with time-constrained, “prompted” writing exercises (approx. 5 mins. each) within specifically scheduled time frames. (These latter exercises—aka “LAB”—would receive full credit upon completion, without further assessment.)

*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>.