



ST. JEROME'S UNIVERSITY

St. Jerome's University in the University of Waterloo

Department of English

ENGL 335 Winter 2021

Creative Writing 1

INSTRUCTOR

Instructor: Dr. Lisa Pike
Office Hours: Monday 2-4 pm & by appointment (LEARN)
Email: lisa.pike@uwaterloo.ca

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Designed to assist students with an interest in developing their creative writing skills in various genres, this course consists of supervised practice, discussions of craft, and peer critiques. The course offering of the Winter 2021 term is composed of the following three units: short fiction writing, dramatic monologue, and poetry.

COURSE OBJECTIVES & LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to understand the genres of fiction, dramatic monologue, and poetry from the writer's perspective. They will be conversant in the defining elements of each genre and will have gained skills in producing original pieces of work. Last but not least, students will have acquired insight and expertise in approaching writing as an ongoing, recursive process.

REQUIRED TEXTS

All ENGL 335 readings are available through our course site on LEARN.
(Readings are found both in our weekly modules and course reserves tab.)

COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSESSMENT

20% Reading as a Writer – weekly reflections on readings
20% Writing Prompts – weekly writing exercises
15% Creative Work-in-process (5% X 3) (*Workshops*)
15% Peer Feedback/Critique (5% X 3) (*Workshops*)
30% Final Portfolio – 8-10 pp of your best creative writing

COURSE SCHEDULE

Wk / Date	Theme / genre	Readings	Assignments
1 Jan 11	Creative Writing: <i>some introductory considerations</i>	"Why We Read, Why We Write" (excerpt) - Joyce Carol Oates in <i>Telling Stories</i>	Reading as a Writer & Writing Prompt
2 Jan 18	Elements of Fiction: the Short Story	"Serendipity" - Michael Crummey "The Case Against the Queen" - Olive Senior	Reading as a Writer & Writing Prompt
3 Jan 25	Fiction	"Fiesta 1980" - Junot Díaz	Reading as a Writer & Writing Prompt
4 Feb 1	Fiction:	"What They Carried" - Tim O'Brien	Reading as a Writer & Writing Prompt
5 Feb 8	Fiction:	"Sleep it Off Lady" & "I Used to Live Here Once" - Jean Rhys	Reading as a Writer Workshop #1 (submit your short story in-process)
	Feb 13-21	READING WEEK	No Class

6	Feb 22	Elements of Drama	"Hills Like White Elephants" - Ernest Hemingway	Reading as a Writer & Writing Prompt Peer Feedback Due (virtual classroom)
7	Mar 1	Dramatic Monologue	"My Man Bovanne" - Toni Cade <i>A Chorus of Mushrooms</i> (character excerpts) – Hiromi Goto	Reading as Writer & Writing Prompt
8	Mar 8	Dramatic Monologue	<i>Homeground</i> (excerpt) – Caterina Edwards	Reading as a Writer Workshop #2 (submit your monologue-in-process)
		March 15	Scheduled Pause	No Class
9	Mar 22	Elements of Poetry	Parliamentary Poet Laureate of Canada - website (selected poems/poets)	Reading as a Writer & Writing Prompt Peer Feedback Due (virtual classroom)
10	Mar 29	Poetry	Selected poems: Emily Dickinson; Lorna Goodison; Derek Walcott; Julia Alvarez; Diane Wakowski; Leslie Marmon Silko	Reading as a Writer & Writing Prompt

11	April 5	Poetry	Emerging Voices: Billy Ray Belcourt; Cassandra Blanchard; Dominique Bécharde; Ocean Vuong	Reading as a Writer Workshop #3 (submit your poem/s in-process)
12	April 12	The Art of Revision: <i>some final considerations</i>	“Shitty First Drafts” – Annie Lamott “On Learning to Fail Better” (excerpt) – Alice LaPlante	Final Writing Prompt Peer Feedback Due (virtual classroom)

N.B.: slight adjustments may be made to the schedule according to any unanticipated need

ASSESSMENT DETAILS

Reading as a Writer: Each week we will compose 200-250w in response to questions about the scheduled reading. This will occur in our [Discussion Forum](#) and will be shared with all class members. In this format, we have the opportunity to engage with the readings as well as interact with one another’s views and observations.

Writing Prompts: Writing Prompts are meant to help us generate material that we can develop into a story, monologue, or poem. These prompts are meant to be spontaneous, fluid, in-process texts. The prompts help us to “discover” what we might have or want to say; they provide an opportunity to explore our thoughts and to develop a disciplined writing practice. Each prompt should result in 200-250 w of writing submitted individually through [Dropbox](#).

Workshops: Three workshops (fiction, monologue, poetry) will be held in the Virtual Classroom on LEARN. In groups of 4, we will meet to exchange and discuss our writing-in-process, providing feedback on one another’s work. (Groups & meeting times to be posted.)

Final Portfolio:

Final portfolios will be comprised of the writing that you have been working on throughout the semester. The work that goes into the portfolio (8-10pp) will be complete, revised, and edited pieces of writing.

FORMAT OF REMOTE DELIVERY:

Our course is offered in an asynchronous format to facilitate working through the reading & writing activities at your own pace. In addition to course readings & prompts, I will post weekly “Notes” for students to read (required reading). *All pieces of weekly writing by students* should be posted to LEARN (either in the Discussion Forum or Dropbox) no later than Friday at noon of each week. Students should log in regularly to the course site for messages and/or updates.

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

Final Portfolio Due: Monday April 19, 2021 (*Dropbox by 11:59pm*)

POLICY ON LATE WORK, MISSED ASSIGNMENTS

As students of Creative Writing it is important to cultivate a consistent writing routine. Each week's activities are meant to keep us "**in-process**" with our writing activities and development of skills. Weekly exercises are not meant, therefore, to be completely polished pieces of work. Editing and revisions of writing are meant for the Workshops 1-3 and for preparation of the final portfolio. With this in mind, it is important to submit on time, even if you feel (as most writers do) the piece could use from more time/work. All late submissions will be subject to a 2% per day deduction.

RULES FOR GROUP WORK IN ASSIGNMENTS / Workshops & Discussion Forums

Group discussion forums and workshops will be *places of professional and respectful dialogue* to ensure maximum benefit and engagement for all participants. Proper "Netiquette" should be observed in all forums.

CORRESPONDENCE

Instructor-student correspondence for our course is through my email address:

lisa.pike@uwaterloo.ca

In the subject line, students should include our course code: ENGL 335; in the body of the email please use the following formula of address: "Dear Dr. Pike / "Hello Dr. Pike" (or similar).

In terms of our class and group interactions, we will acknowledge that all people have a right to be addressed and referred to according to their personal identity. Students can indicate the name the preferred to be called and the pronouns with which they would like to be addressed.

OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Academic Integrity: In order to maintain a culture of academic integrity, members of the University of Waterloo community are expected to promote honesty, trust, fairness, respect, and responsibility. [Check www.uwaterloo.ca/academicintegrity/ for more information.]

Grievance: A student who believes that a decision affecting some aspect of their university life has been unfair or unreasonable may have grounds for initiating a grievance. Read the St. Jerome's University Policy on Student Petitions and Grievances, www.sju.ca/sites/default/files/upload_file/PLCY_AOM_Student-Petitions-and-

[Grievances 20151211-SJUSCapproved.pdf](#). When in doubt, please be certain to contact the St. Jerome's Advising Specialist, Student Affairs Office, who will provide further assistance.

Discipline: A student is expected to know what constitutes academic integrity, to avoid committing an academic offence, and to take responsibility for their actions. [Check www.uwaterloo.ca/academicintegrity/ for more information.] A student who is unsure whether an action constitutes an offence, or who needs help in learning how to avoid offences (e.g., plagiarism, cheating) or about "rules" for group work/collaboration should seek guidance from the course instructor, academic advisor, or the Associate Dean. When misconduct has been found to have occurred, disciplinary penalties will be imposed under the St. Jerome's University Policy on Student Discipline, www.sju.ca/sites/default/files/PLCY_AOM_Student-Discipline_20131122-SJUSCapproved.pdf. For information on categories of offences and types of penalties, students should refer to University of Waterloo Policy 71, Student Discipline, www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy71.htm. For typical penalties, check the Guidelines for the Assessment of Penalties, www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/guidelines/penaltyguidelines.htm.

Appeals: A decision made or penalty imposed under the St. Jerome's University Policy on Student Petitions and Grievances (other than a petition) or the St. Jerome's University Policy on Student Discipline may be appealed if there is a ground. A student who believes they have a ground for an appeal should refer to the St. Jerome's University Policy on Student Appeals, www.sju.ca/sites/default/files/PLCY_AOM_Student-Appeals_20131122-SJUSCapproved.pdf.

Note for students with disabilities: AccessAbility Services, located in Needles Hall (Room 1401) at the University of Waterloo, collaborates with all academic departments to arrange appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities without compromising the academic integrity of the curriculum. If you require academic accommodations to lessen the impact of your disability, please register with AccessAbility Services at the beginning of each academic term, www.uwaterloo.ca/accessability-services/.

Mental Health Services:

All of us need a support system. The SJU faculty and staff encourage students to seek out mental health support if they are needed.

On Campus:

SJU Wellness Coordinator: Lindsay Thompson lindsay.thompson@uwaterloo.ca

Counselling Services: counselling.services@uwaterloo.ca 519-888-4567 x32655

<https://wusa.ca/services/uw-mates>: one-to-one peer support program offered by Federation of Students (FEDS) and Counselling Services

Health Services Emergency service: located across the creek from Student Life Centre

Off campus, 24/7:

<https://good2talk.ca>: Free confidential help line for post-secondary students. Phone: 1-866-925-5454

Grand River Hospital: Emergency care for mental health crisis. Phone: 519-749-4300 x6880

<https://here247.ca>: Mental Health and Crisis Service Team. Phone: 1-844-437-3247
<https://ok2bme.ca> : set of support services for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender or questioning teens in Waterloo. Phone: 519-884-0000 x213

Full details can be found online on the Faculty of Arts

<https://uwaterloo.ca/arts/get-mental-health-support-when-you-need-it>

Download the WatSafe app <https://uwaterloo.ca/watsafe/>
to your phone to quickly access mental health support information

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Students should be aware that this course contains the intellectual property of their instructor, TA, and/or St. Jerome's University. Intellectual property includes items such as:

- Lecture content, spoken and written (and any audio/video recording thereof);
- Lecture handouts, presentations, and other materials prepared for the course (e.g., PowerPoint slides);
- Questions or solution sets from various types of assessments (e.g., assignments, quizzes, tests, final exams); and
- Work protected by copyright (e.g., any work authored by the instructor or TA or used by the instructor or TA with permission of the copyright owner).

Course materials and the intellectual property contained therein, are used to enhance a student's educational experience. However, sharing this intellectual property without the intellectual property owner's permission is a violation of intellectual property rights. For this reason, it is necessary to ask the instructor, TA, and/or St. Jerome's University for permission before uploading and sharing the intellectual property of others online (e.g., to an online repository).

Permission from an instructor, TA, or the University is also necessary before sharing the intellectual property of others from completed courses with students taking the same/similar courses in subsequent terms/years. In many cases, instructors might be happy to allow distribution of certain materials. However, doing so without expressed permission is considered a violation of intellectual property rights.

Please alert the instructor if you become aware of intellectual property belonging to others (past or present) circulating, either through the student body or online. The intellectual property rights owner deserves to know (and may have already given their consent).

Territorial Acknowledgement:

We acknowledge that we are living and working on the traditional territory of the Attawandaron (also known as Neutral), Anishinaabe and Haudenosaunee peoples. St. Jerome's University is situated on the Haldimand Tract, the land promised to the Six Nations that includes ten kilometres on each side of the Grand River.