

St. Jerome's University in the University of Waterloo
Department of English
Course ENGL 336 001
Introduction to Creative Writing – Winter 2019
Mondays 6:30 – 9:30, SJ1 3020

Instructor: Claire Tacon
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Office hours: Mondays, 5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m., or by appointment

Course description: Creative Writing 2 builds on the concepts introduced in ENGL 335. The course consists of writing workshops, exercises, readings, discussions and research presentations.

Required text: While there is no required text, students will be expected to read in their chosen genre(s). Students should plan to spend up to \$30 on printing for class workshops. You will be required to purchase a current literary magazine for your research presentation.

Attendance: Attendance is **mandatory** because of the nature of the class. Participation comprises 25% of the final grade and any absence without good cause will affect this. Please let me know in advance if you are unable to attend class.

Course Outline / Class Schedule

January 7: Introduction // develop reading list // develop writing plans // writing exercises // sign up for slots // question submission
January 14: Class workshops begin
January 21: Workshops; lecture
January 28: Workshops; lecture; choose literary journal
February 1: SJU Reading Series – Richard Cumyn (Friday, 4:30 p.m.)
February 4: Writing lab 1 (generating)
February 4 to February 17: Daily writing practice
February 11: Writing lab 2 (revising)
February 18: Reading week
February 25: Writing lab 3 (collaborating); lit journal handout due
March 4: Workshops; lecture
March 8: SJU Reading Series – Melanie Fishbane (Friday, 4:30 p.m.)
March 11: Workshops; lecture; research presentations
March 18: Workshops
March 25: Workshops; lecture
April 1: Author visit; class reading, discussion
April 10: Portfolio due

Course Requirements and Assessment

Participation:	25%
Writing lab:	15%
<i>(includes daily writing practice, coming prepared for craft discussions, completing exercises)</i>	
Research presentation:	10%
Final portfolio:	50%
<i>(includes revision sheets and annotated reading list)</i>	
Total	100%

Writing Submissions:

At the beginning of the semester, students will create a writing plan for themselves, based on the guidelines for the final portfolio. The work submitted must be written for this class (e.g., do not hand in stories or poems written for other classes or which were written before Nov 2018).

Participation includes: attendance and punctuality, in-class participation, completion of reading assignments, constructive workshop participation, and ungraded writing assignments. Participation also involves attending readings on campus.

Final Portfolio:

The course aims to provide students with the opportunity to develop a body of work in the genre(s) of their choice. They will submit their best work at the end of the semester, according to their own targets and the following guidelines:

Poetry – approx. 8 - 10 poems, depending on length (at least 6 must have been workshopped)
Short fiction – approx. 2 - 3 stories, depending on length (between 1500 and 6000 words each)

All work must have been workshopped in class and be accompanied by revision sheets. The annotated reading list will also be handed in at this time.

Writing Lab

In weeks 5 to 7, we will take a break from workshopping to focus on generating new content and engaging in craft discussion. As part of the writing lab, you will be required to write every day for two weeks (February 4 – February 17). You will need to write for 15 minutes each day, then take a picture of your work and upload it on LEARN. You will only be graded for completing the task, not for the quality of the material.

Research Presentation

Each class member will choose a current literary magazine to present to the class. The goal is to introduce the publication to the group and should include information such as: history, editorial mandate, type of work published, content that inspires you, design/layout and submission guidelines. It should also explain why the chosen magazine is a suitable venue for your writing. You will produce a hand-out about the magazine due in class on February 25. On March 11, a booklet of all the handouts will be distributed and we will discuss how to submit your work to literary journals.

Student Consultations

In the second half of the semester, students can make an appointment during office hours to discuss their final portfolio. These consultations will be an opportunity to measure progress and address any concerns the student may have.

Last class:

On April 1, we will invite an author to visit the class for a question and answer session. Afterwards, students will read short excerpts from their work and we will conclude with a casual discussion.

Late assignments: Handing in assignments on time is imperative as there is a short interval between submission dates and workshops. **Please make sure you hand your submission in by Tuesday at midnight the week before your workshop.**

Late assignments will lose 10% per day to a maximum of 2 days. No assignments will be accepted later than this and a grade of zero will be awarded. The penalty will be applied to the final portfolio. Any arrangements for exceeding circumstances are at the discretion of the instructor.

Important Information

Academic Integrity: To maintain a culture of academic integrity, members of the University of Waterloo and its Federated University and Affiliated Colleges are expected to promote honesty, trust, fairness, respect, and responsibility.

Academic Integrity Office (UW): A resource for students and instructors.

Discipline: A student is expected to know what constitutes academic integrity, to avoid committing academic offences, and to take responsibility for his/her actions. 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 professor, 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](#). For information on categories of offenses and types of penalties, students should refer to [University of Waterloo Policy 71 \(Student Discipline\)](#).

Grievance: A student who believes that a decision affecting some aspect of his/her university life has been unfair or unreasonable may have grounds for initiating a grievance. Students who decide to file a grievance should refer to [University of Waterloo Policy 70 \(Student Petitions and Grievances\)](#). For more information, students should contact the Associate Dean of St. Jerome’s University.

Appeals: A student may appeal the finding and/or penalty in a decision made under the St. Jerome’s University Policy on Student Discipline or University of Waterloo Policy 70 (Student Petitions and Grievances) if a ground for an appeal can be established. In such a case, read [St. Jerome's University Policy on Student Appeals](#).

Note for Students with Disabilities: The [AccessAbility Services \(AS\) Office](#), located in Needles Hall, Room 1132, 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 the AS Office at the beginning of each academic term.

Mental Health Services:

On Campus

- Counselling Services: counselling.services@uwaterloo.ca / 519-888-4567 x32655
- [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 the Student Life Centre

Off campus, 24/7

- [Good2Talk](#): Free confidential help line for post-secondary students. Phone: 1-866-925-5454
 - Grand River Hospital: Emergency care for mental health crisis. Extended Assessment Unit Phone: 519-749-4300 x6880
 - [Here 24/7](#): Mental Health and Crisis Service Team. Phone: 1-844-437-3247
- [OK2BME](#): Support services for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, or questioning teens in Waterloo. Phone: 519-884-0000 x222