



ST. JEROME'S UNIVERSITY

St. Jerome's University in the University of Waterloo

Department of English

Winter 2022

ENGL 336 – Advanced Creative Writing

Tuesdays, 6:30 – 7:50 pm and asynchronous

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Claire Tacon
Office Hours: By appointment
Email: ctacon@uwaterloo.ca

COURSE DESCRIPTION

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

COURSE OBJECTIVES

In this course, we are working towards:

- A. Improving writing skills in poetry and fiction
 - Students will develop a body of work in the genre(s) of their choice.
 - Students will read and submit articles on craft to better understand different techniques
- B. Developing a stronger critical eye
 - Providing workshop feedback to peers
 - Undertaking two major revisions and analysing the revision process
- C. Exploring the world of micropublishing
 - Producing a run of 5 chapbooks developed from course work

REQUIRED TEXTS

All required readings are available online, through course reserves. Please refer to the course schedule to see which ones are due before each class.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSESSMENT

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 2021).

Students will have two opportunities for their work to be discussed. Each submission should be composed of:

Poetry – approx. 2 – 3 poems, depending on length

Short fiction – approx. 1 - 2 stories, depending on length (up to 4-5000 words, combined)

Each submission should be uploaded to the corresponding Dropbox on LEARN by midnight on the Wednesday before class. Please refer to the schedule available on LEARN.

Revisions

The course aims to provide students with the opportunity to develop a body of work in the genre(s) of their choice. Students will submit twice to workshop during the semester and will then undertake a major revision of each submission. In the revision, I expect to see significant experimentation and a clear jump from the initial draft to the revised version. Changing one or two lines will not result in a high grade. Please make effective use of your workshop time to get the feedback most useful to your revision.

You **must** complete a revision analysis sheet (available on LEARN) for each piece, to accompany your final revisions. The revision will be marked on draft quality and on the depth of your revision analysis.

All work must have been workshopped in class and be accompanied by revision sheets.

First Revision (25% of final grade)

Due dates: Your revision is due 3 weeks after your workshop. Please see LEARN for the updated schedule.

Second Revision (25% of final grade)

Due dates: Your revision is due 3 weeks after your workshop, except for students who submit to the last workshop (those revisions need to be handed in 2 weeks later). Please see LEARN for the updated schedule.

Chapbook (25% of final grade)

Each week, students will be assigned a creative experiment as part of the asynchronous portion of the class. Please document all steps of these writing exercises. Students will then develop a chapbook using some of the material from these exercises. The text can be fiction, poetry, or a hybrid form. Students are expected to produce a run of 5 chapbooks, two of which the student will keep, one of which will go to the instructor for grading and two of which will be swapped with other students in the class. Students will be graded on the originality of the material, effectiveness, and the match of content to chapbook form.

Student Consultations

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

Workshops Sheets, Peer Discussion and Craft readings (25% of final grade)

We will be workshopping most weeks. You are expected to read each submission and to complete a workshop sheet (available on LEARN) for each writer. Please try to join these discussions synchronously. If you are unable to attend one week, please contact me as soon as possible to make alternate arrangements. You will be graded on the generosity and depth of the peer feedback you provide. If you

are late with submitting either your draft or your feedback, the penalty will be deducted from this grade. All workshop sheets must be handed in the Sunday before class. Please see the schedule below for more details.

Craft readings

Each week, there will be two craft readings as part of the asynchronous portion of class. Each week, you are expected to:

- make one post on that week's Learn discussion about either of the readings
- reply to at least one other person's posts about the reading

You are also expected to provide one of the readings. You may choose the author and the element of craft the reading covers. Please email me the reading by your due date (available on the schedule on LEARN), along with a few sentences stating why you think it's useful.

COURSE SCHEDULE

Week	Date	In-class work, asynchronous work, readings and deadlines
1	Jan 11	In class: Introduction, writing exercises
		Asynchronous work (due by Jan 16): <i>Craft reading:</i> Liz Lerman's Critical Response Works in Progress – New York Times <i>Writing task:</i> available on LEARN
		Workshop sheets for week 2 (due by Jan 16) 3 submissions
2	Jan 18	In class: Warm-up, 3 workshops, writing
		Asynchronous work (due by Jan 23): <i>Craft Readings:</i> How to Write a Poetry Chapbook: Tips for Writing and Publishing Poetry How To Make A Mini-Zine About Life During The Pandemic <i>Writing task:</i> available on LEARN
		Workshop sheets for week 3 (due by Jan 23) 3 submissions
3	Jan 25	In class: Warm-up, 3 workshops, writing
		Asynchronous work (due by Jan 30): <i>Craft Reading:</i> On Writing Essentials TBD <i>Writing task:</i> available on LEARN
		Workshop sheets for week 4 (due by Jan 30) 3 submissions

Week	Date	In-class work, asynchronous work, readings and deadlines
4	Feb 1	In class: Warm-up, 3 workshops, writing
		Asynchronous work (due by Feb 6): <i>Craft Reading:</i> TBD TBD <i>Writing task:</i> available on LEARN
		Workshop sheets for week 5 (due by Feb 6) 3 submissions
5	Feb 8	In class: Warm-up, 3 workshops, writing
		Asynchronous work (due by Feb 13): <i>Craft Reading:</i> TBD TBD <i>Writing task:</i> available on LEARN
		Workshop sheets for week 6 (due by Feb 13) 3 submissions
6	Feb 15	In class: Warm-up, 3 workshops, writing
		Asynchronous work (due by Feb 28): <i>Craft Reading:</i> TBD TBD <i>Writing task:</i> available on LEARN
		Workshop sheets for week 7 (*due by Feb 18) 3 submissions
	Feb 22	<i>Reading week</i>
7	Mar 1	In class: Warm-up, 3 workshops, writing
		Asynchronous work (due by Mar 6): <i>Craft Reading:</i> TBD TBD <i>Writing task:</i> available on LEARN
		Workshop sheets for week 8 (due by Mar 6) 3 submissions

Week	Date	In-class work, asynchronous work, readings and deadlines
8	Mar 8	In class: Warm-up, 3 workshops, writing
		Asynchronous work (due by Mar 13): Craft Reading: TBD TBD <i>Writing task:</i> available on LEARN
		Workshop sheets for week 9 (due by Mar 13) 3 submissions
9	Mar 15	In class: Warm-up, 3 workshops, writing
		Asynchronous work (due by Mar 20): <i>Craft Reading:</i> TBD TBD <i>Writing task:</i> available on LEARN
		Workshop sheets for week 10 (due by Mar 20) 3 submissions
10	Mar 22	In class: Warm-up, 3 workshops, writing
		Asynchronous work (due by Mar 27): <i>Craft Reading:</i> TBD TBD <i>Writing task:</i> available on LEARN
		Workshop sheets for week 11 (due by Mar 27) 3 submissions
11	Mar 29	In class: Warm-up, 3 workshops, writing
		Asynchronous work (due by Apr 2): <i>Craft Reading:</i> Guest author's book(s) (tbd) <i>Writing task:</i> Assemble your work into a chapbook
12	Apr 5	In class: Guest artist visit and course wrap up
		Asynchronous work: <i>Writing task:</i> Assemble your work into a chapbook
		Due Date: Chapbook (April 12)

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

Date

Tuesday, April 12 (by midnight)

Assignment

Chapbook, including exercise documentation

Please see the schedule, available on LEARN, for all other due dates, including: workshop submission deadlines, revision deadlines and craft reading submission deadlines.

POLICY ON LATE WORK, MISSED ASSIGNMENTS, AND MAKE-UP TESTS

With workshop draft submissions and workshop feedback sheets, late submissions will lose 10% per day to a maximum of 3 days. No assignments will be accepted later than this and a grade of zero will be awarded. Any arrangements for exceeding circumstances are at the discretion of the instructor.

With all other assignments, I am amenable to a one-week grace period. Further extensions only available with advance instructor approval.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

Students are encouraged to attend the synchronous class times over Zoom. A recording of each class will be made available for two weeks. Students unable to attend the synchronous times will be required to watch the video and complete the work on their own. All students are required to complete the asynchronous learning tasks.

CORRESPONDENCE

Please email me with your questions or concerns. I try to return emails within 24 hours during the week and within 48 hours on weekends. Office hours this semester are by appointment only, usually on Mondays and Tuesdays. Please email me to book a time.

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/.