

WRITING 1000F/G THE WRITERS' STUDIO - 2019-2020

SECTION: 001
TIME/ROOM/LOCATION: 2:30-5:30 UCC 1220
PROFESSOR: Dr. Tom Cull

EMAIL: tcull3@uwo.ca
OFFICE: 1425 University College
OFFICE HOURS: Mon 3:30-4:30 Wed 1:30-2:30

Break free of technology to become creative!

To provide the best learning experience for you and to encourage your creativity, all in-class writing exercises will be created with pen and paper, both of which you should bring to each class. All class notes will be available to you via OWL; thus, there is no need to open your laptop in class, so please leave it closed and in your backpack.

DESCRIPTION

Students are introduced to the creative process of writing through in-class exercises, peer workshop, analysis of creative texts, journaling, essay writing, and a review of grammar, mechanics, and composition. Students learn strategies for idea generation in a variety of genres (poetry, fiction, nonfiction, screenwriting), composing a first draft, approaching revision, and effective editing and proofreading techniques.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Upon successful completion of this course, students will have demonstrated the ability to

1. identify the fundamental elements of creative and essay writing;
2. generate ideas in a variety of genres: poetry, fiction, creative non-fiction, drama/screenwriting, and essay writing;
3. analyze and respond critically to published writing and the work of their peers;
4. identify and correct errors in composition, grammar, and mechanics; and
5. incorporate feedback into revisions.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS

1. Imaginative Writing: The Elements of Craft 4th Edition Penguin Academics Series by Janet Burroway, 2014 (available at The Bookstore at Western)
2. The Canadian Writer's Handbook: Essentials Edition, Oxford University Press, 2017 (available at The Bookstore at Western)

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Method of Evaluation	Grade Value	Deadline
Mid-term Portfolio	30%	Week 5
Narrative Assignment Proposal & Presentation	15%	Weeks 7 to 9
Narrative Assignment (Final Draft with Revision Notes)	35%	Week 12
Exam	20%	TBA
Total	100%	

EXAM

The exam will test the skills that you have developed over the course of the semester in terms of your writing ability (purpose, coherence, cohesion, style, and grammar) and your understanding of the fundamental elements of creative writing as discussed in class and in course readings.

SUBMITTING ASSIGNMENTS

In this course you will be required to submit the final version of each of your assignments electronically, through OWL to turnitin.com and provide your instructor with a hard copy in class the day the assignment is due.

Late assignments will receive a penalty of 5% per day. To qualify for an extension, you must have a valid reason and contact your instructor prior to the deadline. Please see the medical accommodation policy below.

If necessary, please submit essays to the English and Writing Studies Department Drop Box across from UC 2431, **making sure you include your instructor's name and your section number**. However, do not

- fax assignments
- e-mail assignments

Keep copies (electronic, paper, or both) of all assignments submitted.

ATTENDANCE POLICIES

Attendance at class is required to improve as a writer. Here is the Writing Studies attendance policy in this class:

- You may miss up to three hours (the equivalent of one week of class) of class meetings during the term without explanation. That means that the first three class hours you miss will be recorded as absences but *excused provided you don't miss any more*.
- However, if you miss a total of four to nine class hours (the equivalent of up to three full weeks of class), your final grade will be reduced by 10% (e.g. an earned final grade of 80% will be reported as a final grade of 72).
- If you miss a total of more than nine hours of class meetings (the equivalent of more than three weeks of class meetings) your final grade will be reduced by 15% (e.g. an earned final grade of 80% will be reported as a final grade of 68).

This policy will only be waived for medical or compassionate reasons. If you have non-medical evidence that would support waiving an absence of one class meeting, provide it to your instructor within one week of that absence. In the case of a medical reason, please see the Medical Accommodation Policy set out below and in the document 'Information for Students in a Writing Studies Course' on this website, and either initiate a Self-Reported Absence or apply in person to the Academic Counselling or Undergraduate office of your home Faculty. If your absence is extended and prolonged (over one week of continuous non-attendance), then you should discuss it in person with the Academic Counselling or Undergraduate office of your home Faculty. Your advisor there may then contact all of your instructors.

Note: a class meeting missed in order to write a test, exam, or other form of 'make-up class' in another course will count as non-attendance, and will attract penalties as defined above if applicable. Instructors at Western shall not require a student to write a make-up test or similar at times which conflict with that student's other scheduled class times. If you are asked or 'required' to do this, you should immediately contact an academic counsellor in your Dean's office. If you elect to miss a class in order to write such a test, that is your choice; your absence will not be excused.

Attendance also extends to tardiness. If you are more than 20 minutes late, you will be penalized an hour of attendance. Please make every effort to be on time as late entry can disrupt the flow of discussion in our class. Early departures from class, which have not been previously arranged with the

instructor, will also be counted as an absence. If you leave during the break, you will be docked an hour of attendance.

SCHOLASTIC OFFENCES, INCLUDING PLAGIARISM

The University Senate requires the following statements, and Web site references, to appear on course outlines:

“Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following Web site:
<http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/scholoff.pdf>.

Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea, or a passage of text from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is a major academic offence (see Scholastic Offence Policy as above).

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com (<http://www.turnitin.com>).”

Note: In this course you will be required to submit an electronic copy of the final version of each of your essays to turnitin.com through OWL.

PREREQUISITES

The University Senate requires the following statement to appear on course outlines:

“Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.”

Medical Accommodation Policy:

Western has a comprehensive policy covering requests for accommodation by students who are not registered with Student Accessibility Services. All students should review this policy here, under the heading ‘Accommodation for Illness – Undergraduate Students’, noting the procedures, restrictions, and notice requirements:

http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=1&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page_12

In Writing courses, students covered by this policy who are seeking academic consideration must proceed as follows.

Writing Studies’ Basic Policy: students seeking academic consideration **on medical or any other grounds** for any missed tests/exams, class attendance/participation components, or late or missed assignments must either initiate a Self-Reported Absence (**for a grade component worth up to 30% of their final grade, but excluding final exams scheduled during the exam period**) or apply in person to the Academic Counselling or Undergraduate office of their home Faculty and provide a

Student Medical Certificate (SMC) or other supporting documentation as required in accordance with official Western policy (linked above).

Students seeking academic consideration **must communicate with their instructors no later than 24 hours** after the end of the period covered by either:

- i. A Self-Reported Absence, or
- ii. Academic consideration supported by the Academic Counselling Office.

Exception: in Writing Studies courses, a student seeking academic accommodation **on non-medical grounds** for any missed in-class tests/exams, class attendance/participation components, or late or missed assignments **worth less than 10% of a final grade** *may* first consult directly with her or his instructor, who will – in his or her discretion – elect either to make a decision on the request directly or instruct the student to follow the procedures set out in **Writing Studies' Basic Policy**.

Please note that individual instructors will **not under any circumstances** accept or read medical documentation directly offered by a student, whether in support of an application for accommodation on medical grounds or for related reasons (e.g. to explain an absence from class which may result in a grade penalty under an 'Attendance' policy in the course). **All medical documentation must** be submitted to the Academic Counselling or Undergraduate office of a student's home Faculty.

Students who are or who feel they should be covered under Student Accessibility Services should review Western policy here:

http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=1&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page_10

Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to MentalHealth@Western: (<https://www.uwo.ca/health/>) for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

Special Requests: Special Examinations, Incomplete Standing, Aegrotat Standing:

Please refer to the "Information for All Students in a Writing Studies Course" for more detailed information. Briefly, remember that instructors do not have the discretion to initiate, consider, or grant (or not) such requests; you must go directly to the Dean's office of your home faculty.

CLASS MEETING SCHEDULE

DATE	MEETING FOCUS	READINGS (SUBJECT TO CHANGE – CHECK OWL)
WEEK 1 Sept 11	Introduction to course Images and writing through the senses	Pick up textbooks from the bookstore
WEEK 2 Sept 18	Images Poetry Image Poem Workshop <u>Grammar</u> : <i>Subject and Verb Identification Review</i>	<u>Textbook Readings</u> : <i>Imaginative Writing</i> : “Image,” p. 15-27 and “Poetry,” p. 297-327 and <i>The Canadian Writer’s Handbook</i> , “Paragraphs,” p. 16-27
WEEK 3 Sept 25	Setting Setting Workshop Giving and Receiving Feedback <u>Grammar</u> : <i>Fragments</i>	<u>Textbook Readings</u> : <i>Imaginative Writing</i> : “Setting,” p. 135-165 and <i>The Canadian Writer’s Handbook</i> : “Fragments,” p. 49
WEEK 4 Oct 2	Creative Nonfiction In class writing exercise <u>Grammar</u> : <i>Run-on Sentences</i>	<i>Imaginative Writing</i> : “Creative Nonfiction,” p. 225-255 and <i>The Canadian Writer’s Handbook</i> : “Comma Splices” and “Run-ons,” p. 49-50
WEEK 5 Oct 9	Mid-Term Portfolio (30%) Dialogue Scripts In-class Dialogue Exercise	<u>Textbook Readings</u> : <i>Imaginative Writing</i> : “Voice,” p. 47-61, “Drama,” p. 328-367
WEEK 6 Oct 16	Story and Narrative Sign up for proposal presentations <u>Mechanics</u> : <i>Commas</i>	<u>Textbook Readings</u> : <i>Imaginative Writing</i> : “Story,” p. 166-175, “Character,” p. 94-109, and <i>The Canadian Writer’s Handbook</i> : “The Comma.” p. 150-158
WEEK 7 Oct 23	Story and Narrative In-class Writing Exercise	<u>Textbook Readings</u> : <i>Imaginative Writing</i> : “Fiction,” p. 259-294”
WEEK 8 Oct 30	Drafts and Research Narrative Presentations (15%) In-class writing exercise	<u>Textbook Readings</u> : <i>Imaginative Writing</i> : “Developing a Draft to Research,” p. 195-202
WEEK 9 Nov 13	Narrative Presentations (15%)	
WEEK 10 Nov 20	Narrative Presentations (15%) <u>Mechanics</u> : <i>Apostrophes, Semicolons, Colons, Dashes, Parentheses</i>	<u>Textbook Readings</u> : <i>The Canadian Writer’s Handbook</i> : “The Essentials of Punctuation,” p. 158-179
WEEK 11 Nov 27	Narrative Draft Workshop (small groups) One-on-one meetings with professor	<u>Textbook Readings</u> : <i>Imaginative Writing</i> : “Revision,” p. 203-206 and “Editing,” p. 207-208 and <i>The Canadian Writer’s Handbook</i> : “Revising, Editing, and Proofreading,” p. 14-16
WEEK 12 Dec 4	Narrative Assignment Final (35%) Writing Resources Exam Prep	Exam Template