

**Writing 1000G:  
The Writer's Studio  
Winter 2022**

**Section: 650**

**Instructor: Dr. Aaron Schneider**

**Email: [aschnei4@uwo.ca](mailto:aschnei4@uwo.ca) or OWL email**

**Office: UC 2431**

**Office hours: Monday 9:30-11:30 (Zoom):**

Aaron Schneider is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Aaron Schneider's Zoom Meeting

Time: This is a recurring meeting Meet anytime

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://westernuniversity.zoom.us/j/92023725393>

Meeting ID: 920 2372 5393

One tap mobile

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Dial by your location

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Join by SIP

[92023725393@zoomcrc.com](mailto:92023725393@zoomcrc.com)

Join by H.323

162.255.37.11 (US West)

162.255.36.11 (US East)

69.174.57.160 (Canada Toronto)

65.39.152.160 (Canada Vancouver)

Meeting ID: 920 2372 5393

## **COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES**

### **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, 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
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. *Write Moves: A Creative Writing Guide and Anthology* by Nancy Pagh
2. *The Canadian Writer's Handbook, Second Essentials Edition*, by William E. Messenger, Jan de Bruyn, Judy Brown and Ramona Montagnes

### **ASSIGNMENTS:**

Free Verse Poem (Week 3):	10%
Flash Fiction (Week 5):	15%
Flash Creative Nonfiction (Week 7):	15%
Capstone Assignment (Week 12):	40%
Exam:	20%

Note: Assignment due dates are listed on the class schedule and on the assignments on OWL.

Note: Complete assignments are posted on OWL.

### **ATTENDANCE:**

This is an online course, and there is, therefore, no scheduled class, and no penalties for missing class. However, it is your responsibility to stay engaged with the course. A regular class requires you to attend class at least once and often twice a week. You should be logging on to our class' OWL site a bare minimum of this number of times a week, and, ideally, several more.

## **SUBMITTING ASSIGNMENTS:**

All assignments should be submitted through the Assignments drop boxes on OWL by 5:30 pm on the Friday of the week the assignment is due.

Note: All assignments, with the exception of scripts, must be submitted as Microsoft Word files. As a Western student, you have access to this program through your Outlook site (the site you use for your Western email). Assignments that do not conform to these file types will receive a grade of 0%.

## **LATE ASSIGNMENTS:**

Late assignments will be penalized 5% a day.

Do not

- fax assignments
- e-mail assignments

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

## **EMAIL POLICY:**

I respond to email in one working day. You can email me at [aschnei4@uwo.ca](mailto:aschnei4@uwo.ca) or through OWL email. I do not respond to email on the weekend.

Please note that UWO Instructors can respond only to UWO e-mail addresses. Grades can be communicated only through the Mail aspect of Sakai (OWL), not through UWO e-mail.

## **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/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/scholastic\\_discipline\\_undergrad.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.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>.

### **Academic Accommodation and Consideration**

Students with disabilities work with Accessible Education (formerly SSD) which provides recommendations for accommodation based on medical documentation or psychological and cognitive testing. The accommodation policy can be found here: Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities.

### **Academic Consideration for Student Absence:**

Students will have up to two (2) opportunities during the regular academic year to use an on-line portal to self-report an absence during the term, provided the following conditions are met: the absence is no more than 48 hours in duration, and the assessment for which consideration is being sought is worth 30% or less of the student's final grade. Students are expected to contact their instructors within 24 hours of the end of the period of the self-reported absence, unless noted on the syllabus. Students are not able to use the self-reporting option in the following circumstances:

- for exams scheduled by the Office of the Registrar (e.g., December and April exams)
- absence of a duration greater than 48 hours,
- assessments worth more than 30% of the student's final grade,
- if a student has already used the self-reporting portal twice during the academic year

If the conditions for a Self-Reported Absence are not met, students will need to provide a Student Medical Certificate if the absence is medical, or provide appropriate documentation if there are compassionate grounds for the absence in question. Students are encouraged to contact their Faculty academic counselling office to obtain more information about the relevant documentation. All requests for consideration for assessments worth more than 30% of a final grade must be directed to the Academic Counselling office of a student's Home Faculty.

In this course, all requests for academic consideration must be directed to the Academic Counselling office of the student's Home Faculty if an SRA will not be used.

Students should also note that individual instructors are not permitted to receive documentation directly from a student, whether in support of an application for consideration on medical grounds, or for other reasons. All documentation required for absences that are not covered by the Self-Reported Absence Policy must be submitted to the Academic Counselling office of a student's Home Faculty.

For Western University policy on Consideration for Student Absence, see Policy on Academic Consideration for Student Absences - Undergraduate Students in First Entry Programs and for the Student Medical Certificate (SMC), see: [http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf).

**Religious Accommodation:**

Students should consult the University's list of recognized religious holidays, and should give reasonable notice in writing, prior to the holiday, to the Instructor and an Academic Counsellor if their course requirements will be affected by a religious observance. Additional information is given in the [Western Multicultural Calendar](#).

**Special Requests (Special Examinations, Incomplete Standing, Aegrotat Standing):**

Please refer to the “Information for All Students in a Writing Course” for more detailed information. Briefly, remember that your instructor does 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.

**Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Health and Wellness <http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/> for a complete list of options about how to obtain help. Immediate help in the event of a crisis can be had by phoning 519.661.3030 (during class hours) or 519.433.2023 after class hours and on weekends.**

**Support Services**

**Registrarial Services <http://www.registrar.uwo.ca>**

**Student Support Services <https://student.uwo.ca/psp/heprdweb/?cmd=login>**

**Services provided by the USC <http://westernusc.ca/services/>**

**Academic Support and Engagement <http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/>**

**Owl (Sakai)**

Assignments, when they are assigned, will be posted on our Sakai course site. Modifications to the schedule may occur from time to time, but students will be notified by e-mail if this occurs.

# Course Schedule

## Week 1: Introduction to the Course (January 10-14)

### Readings:

- Week 1 Lecture
- *Write Moves: A Creative Writing Guide and Anthology*:
  - “Why I Write?” (pg. 19)
  - “Practicing Perception” (pg. 25)
  - “Drafting” (pg. 36)
  - “Revision” (pg. 48)
- Online Reading: David Ly’s “Same Ocean”: <http://puritan-magazine.com/winner-same-ocean-2021/>

### Activities:

- Introduce yourself to the class by posting in the Week 1 Forum

## Week 2: The Elements of Poetry (January 17-21)

### Readings

- Week 2 Lecture
- *Write Moves: A Creative Writing Guide and Anthology*:
  - “Image, Detail and Figurative Language” (pg. 67)
  - “Sound” (pg. 80)
  - “Writing Poems” (pg. 139)
  - Kelli Russel Agodo, “Geography” (pg. 207)
  - Stephanie Bolster, “Many Have Written Poems about Blackberries” (pg. 242)
  - T.S. Eliot, “The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock” (pg. 265)
  - Nancy Pagh, “Love Song: After T.S. Eliot” (pg. 370)
  - Sina Queyras, “On the Scent, #14” (pg. 373)
  - Elizabeth Bachinsky, “For the Pageant Girls” (pg. 206)
  - Patricia Smith, “Hip-Hop Ghazal” (pg. 390)
  - James Tyner, “At a Barbecue for R.C. One Week after He Is Out of Iraq” (pg. 403)
- Grammar: Nouns, Pronouns and Verbs
  - Chapters 6-8 of *The Canadian Writer’s Handbook*

### Activities:

- Free Verse Poem Workshop

**Week 3: The Elements of Narrative  
(January 24-28)**

Readings:

- Week 3 Lecture
- *Write Moves: A Creative Writing Guide and Anthology*:
  - “Character and Setting” (pg. 93)
  - “Scene, Exposition and Reflection” (pg. 106)
  - Raymond Carver, “Chef’s House” (pg. 248)
  - Michael Crummey, “Bread” (pg. 261)
  - Flannery O’Connor, “A Good Man is Hard to Find” (pg. 357)
  - Amy Tan, “Confessions” (pg. 396)
- Grammar: Adjectives and Adverbs
  - Chapters 10 and 11 of *The Canadian Writer’s Handbook*

**\*\*Assignment 1: Free Verse Poem Due\*\***

**Week 4: Writing Stories  
(January 31-February 4)**

Readings:

- Week 4 Lecture
- *Write Moves: A Creative Writing Guide and Anthology*:
  - “Writing Stories” (pg. 156)
  - David Foster Wallace, “Incarnations of Burned Children” (pg. 269)
  - Aimee Nezhukumatathil, “The Witching Hour” (pg. 343)
  - Madeleine Thien, “Simple Recipes” (pg. 397)
  - Jeanette Winterson, “The Three Friends” (pg. 411)
- Grammar: Sentences
  - Chapters 3 and 4 of *The Canadian Writer’s Handbook*

Activity:

- Flash Fiction Workshop

**Week 5: Voice and the Ethics of Storytelling**  
**(February 7-11)**

Readings:

- Week 5 Lecture
- *Write Moves: A Creative Writing Guide and Anthology:*
  - “Voice and Perspective” (pg. 119)
  - Patricia Lockwood, “Rape Joke” (pg. 314)
  - Shani Mootoo, “Out on Main Street” (pg. 333)
  - Michael Ondaatje, “The Cinnamon Peeler” (pg. 367)
  - Richard Shelton, “The Stones” (pg. 387)
  - Priscila Uppal, “Sorry I Forgot to Clean Up After Myself” (pg. 404)
- Grammar: The comma, the semicolon and the colon
  - Chapters 15-17 of *The Canadian Writer’s Handbook*

**\*\*Assignment 2: Flash Fiction Due\*\***

**Week 6: Writing Creative Nonfiction**  
**(February 14-18)**

Readings:

- Week 6 Lecture
- *Write Moves: A Creative Writing Guide and Anthology:*
  - “Writing Personal Essays” (pg. 173)
  - Ivan E. Coyote, “This, That and the Other Thing” (pg. 256)
  - Brian Doyle, “Leap” (pg. 264)
  - Evelyn Lau, “An Insatiable Emptiness” (pg. 301)
  - Donald Murray, “War Stories Untold” (pg. 339)
- Grammar: The dash and parentheses
  - Chapters 17 and 18 of *The Canadian Writer’s Handbook*

Activity:

- Flash Creative Nonfiction Workshop

**\*\*Winter Reading Break\*\***

**Week 7: Writing Scripts**  
**(February 28-March 4)**

Readings:

- Week 7 Lecture
- Grammar: Common sentence “problems” I
  - Chapters 5a, 5b and 5c of *The Canadian Writer’s Handbook*

**\*\*Assignment 3: Flash Creative Nonfiction Due\*\***



**Week 8: Drafting/Capstone Presentation**  
**(March 7-11)**

Readings:

- Week 8 Lecture
- *Write Moves: A Creative Writing Guide and Anthology:*
  - “Drafting” redux (pg. 36)
- Grammar: Common sentence “problems” II
  - Chapters 5a, 5b and 5c of *The Canadian Writer’s Handbook*

Activity:

- Capstone Presentation

**Week 9: Revision/Capstone Presentation**  
**(March 14-18)**

Readings:

- Week 9 Lecture
- *Write Moves: A Creative Writing Guide and Anthology:*
  - “Revision” redux (pg. 48)
- Grammar: Paragraphs
  - Chapter 3 of *The Canadian Writer’s Handbook*

Activity:

- Capstone Presentation

**Week 10: Experimental Writing**  
**(March 21-25)**

Readings:

- Week 10 Lecture

Activity:

- Capstone Presentation

**Week 11: Publishing/Exam Prep**  
**(March 28-April 1)**

Readings:

- Week 11 Lecture

Activity:

- Capstone Workshop

**Week 12: Review/Exam Prep  
(April 4-8)**

Readings:

- Week 12 Lecture

Activity:

- Exam prep

**\*\*Assignment 4: Capstone Assignment Due\*\***