

## Writing 1000F: The Writers' Studio

### Fall 2024

Section # 001

Instructor: David Barrick

### COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES

#### DESCRIPTION

Students are introduced to the creative process of writing through in-class exercises, peer workshop, analysis of creative texts, 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 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
3. *Her First Palestinian*, by Saeed Teebi

#### 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: In 2024-25, the Exam will be written in-person.** No aids are permitted for the final exam; electronic devices of any kind (including calculators, laptops, cell phones, and smart watches) will not be allowed.\*\*

## Assignment Format

All projects must be typed; make sure that prose assignments are double-spaced and that poetry assignments are single-spaced. All assignments must have your name, course name, section number, and the instructor's name on the first page. For source documentation (if applicable) and document format, you will be expected to follow the conventions of MLA style.

## Submitting Assignments

Assignments are due on the date specified in the weekly schedule. **Late assignments will be penalized 5% per day unless you have received an extension.** You must talk to your instructor about extensions ahead of the due date and provide a valid reason; extensions are not automatic and cannot be granted retroactively.

In this course, you will be required to submit the final version of each of your written assignments electronically as a DOCX file, through OWL Brightspace, to Turnitin.com. No print copies are necessary. However, be aware that you are responsible for keeping backup copies 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 of class meetings (the equivalent of one week) 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) 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 be waived only for medical or compassionate reasons. If you have good reasons for waiving an absence of one class meeting (e.g. if you've missed three hours, and need or want to miss another class meeting) discuss these reasons with your instructor within one week of that absence. If your absence is extended and prolonged (over one week of continuous non-attendance), then you should discuss it with your academic advisor in your home faculty, who may require documentation. That advisor may then contact all of your instructors. See also: '**Academic Accommodation**' below.

**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.

**\*Note:** Any 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.