



UNIVERSITY OF
CALGARY

FACULTY OF ARTS
Department Of English

COURSE OUTLINE

ENGL 265: Introductory Creative Writing
Winter 2023
Tuesdays and Thursdays, 8:00-9:15am
Tuesday Lectures: ENE 241

Instructor	Dr. Rebecca Geleyn (she/her)
Email:	rgeleyn@ucalgary.ca
Web Page:	D2L (access via MyUofC portal)
Office Hours:	Tuesdays 10:45-11:45am or by appointment, SS 1060

Seminar Instructors (Thursdays)

SEM 1—SA 125: Ryanne Kap (ryanne.kap@ucalgary.ca)
SEM 2—ST 027A: Amy LeBlanc (ajleblan@ucalgary.ca)
SEM 3—ST 027: Jamie Michaels (jamie.michaels@ucalgary.ca)
SEM 4—SS 209: Shazia Hafiz Ramji (shaziahafiz.ramji@ucalgary.ca)
SEM 5—ST 057: Ben Ghan (ben.ghan@ucalgary.ca)
SEM 6—ST 059: Marc Herman Lynch (mhlynch@ucalgary.ca)

Email Policy:

I am happy to reply to short, specific questions via email and will answer as promptly as possible, usually within 48 hours. However, you should first contact your seminar instructor/Teaching Assistant with any questions. If you would like to discuss the course material in more detail, it is more appropriate to see your seminar instructor or me during office hours or to make an appointment.

Course Description:

This course will provide students with the opportunity to learn the rudiments of craft for poetry, fiction, and creative nonfiction, emphasizing the centrality of reading and revision to literary composition. Students will obtain experience writing, reading, editing, providing constructive editorial feedback to their peers, and applying editorial feedback they receive to further their creative practice.

Instruction in the larger Tuesday lecture will cover elements of craft, including discussion centered on published texts and the techniques that make these texts effective. The Thursday

class is a seminar in assigned smaller groups and will involve a combination of workshopping original student writing and analyzing the principles discussed in lecture.

There are no pre-requisites for this course. While credits obtained in this course do not count towards an embedded Certificate in Creative Writing, the class should result in a much stronger portfolio for use in a student's application to intermediate and advanced creative writing classes.

Course learning outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this course, students will have:

1. learned the fundamental principles of composition for poetry, fiction, and creative nonfiction;
2. practiced writing craft in at least two of the three above genres;
3. begun to develop their own creative writing practice;
4. developed a concrete understanding of how image, metaphor, and narrative (if applicable) may work in these three genres;
5. begun to develop critical tools with which to analyze creative writing;
6. analyzed the work of numerous writers through the course texts.

Texts and readings:

Required text (available as both a print and digital version through the University of Calgary Bookstore):

Pagh, Nancy. *Write Moves: A Creative Writing Guide & Anthology*. Broadview Press, 2016.

*Other required readings for this course will be made available via D2L.

Learning technology requirements:

Students will need to have access to a laptop computer (or tablet) for the Thursday tutorial. If they cannot bring a laptop or tablet, it is their responsibility to print off the digital versions of student work to bring with them to class, or to otherwise arrange to read student work off a classmate's laptop. Their handwritten comments on their peers' work must then be transcribed and submitted online.

There is a D2L site for this course which contains required readings and other relevant class resources and materials (see d2L.ucalgary.ca).

Assessments and Evaluation:

Participation: 20%

Editorial Letter: 5%

Poetry Assignment: 20%

Fiction OR Nonfiction Assignment: 20%

Final Assignment: 35%

Participation (20%) comprises the following:

- Submission of at least TWO 1-1.5 page (max) creative writing pieces (the first in poetry, the second in either fiction or creative nonfiction) for workshopping on specified Thursday tutorials. Each submission is worth 5% and must be accompanied by a short (1-2 sentence) topic statement.
- Active workshop participation: commenting aloud and through written notes during workshop time on other students' work. Your editorial feedback must be submitted to your seminar instructor and the peer whose work you are critiquing at the end of the workshop day. (5%)
- Regular attendance (5%)

Editorial Letter (5%): Students will submit an editorial letter in response to one of the creative texts studied this term (not the textbook readings). Students may choose to respond to any of the online materials posted to D2L or select an anthologized text from Nancy Pagh's *Write Moves*.

Poetry Assignment (20%): 5-6 pages of polished poetry + a 350-word process statement that incorporates or reflects on feedback from seminar students and instructor and/or creative writing principle(s) discussed in class or seminar. This assignment should be submitted to your seminar instructor (TA) via D2L Dropbox.

Fiction OR Nonfiction Assignment (20%): 5-6 (double-spaced) pages of polished fiction or nonfiction + a 350-word process statement that incorporates or reflects on feedback from seminar students and instructor and/or creative writing principle(s) discussed in class or seminar. This assignment should be submitted to your seminar instructor (TA) via D2L Dropbox.

Final Assignment (35%): 5-6 pages of new work (not previously submitted for another assignment) in poetry, fiction, or nonfiction + a 350-word process statement that incorporates or reflects on feedback from seminar students and instructor and/or creative writing principle(s) discussed in class or seminar. This assignment should be submitted to Dr. Geleyn via D2L Dropbox.

- There is no Registrar scheduled exam for this course and no extra-credit assignments.
- The Poetry Assignment, Fiction or Nonfiction Assignment, and Final Assignment must be submitted in order to qualify for a passing grade in this course.
- Email submissions will not be accepted. All assignments must be submitted via D2L Dropbox.
- Assignments submitted after the deadline will be penalized with the loss of a third of a grade (A- to B+) for each calendar day (not class) that the assignment is overdue. No assignments will be accepted one week past the assignment deadline without the prior consent of the instructor.

Attendance and participation expectations:

Students are expected to attend both the lecture and seminar regularly and to be fully present and engaged in class activities and discussions. These are part of the participation grade, as outlined in the assessment components section above. A rubric with detailed information about the assessment of participation is available on the course D2L site. Attendance to the seminar is worth 5% of the grade for this course, so students must notify their seminar instructor before class if they cannot attend the seminar due to illness.

Participation in the writing workshop (seminar groups):

Seminars are structured as workshops, intended to provide feedback to students on their workshop submissions. The workshop is a chance to enhance not only your writing skills but also your reading and editing abilities. The workshops will require students to submit and discuss written exercises and assignments and to receive oral peer feedback on at least two works of creative writing during seminar. Participation is essential to ensure a successful workshop—this means that all students must come to the seminar having read assigned texts and prepared to provide thoughtful responses to their peers' work.

Students must submit between 2-3 (3 is ideal) workshop submissions over the term. For the Poetry Assignment, Fiction or Nonfiction Assignment, and Final Assignment, students must then respond in their process statements to general feedback from comments by classmates in seminars and/or class instruction so as to improve their writing. More detailed instructions on procedures for the workshop will be provided on D2L and in class.

Attendance and participation in lecture:

Students are expected to attend the lecture and participate in class activities. Although attendance in lecture will not be counted toward the attendance grade, students are required to use the principles of craft covered in lecture toward honing their writing and to discuss these in all submitted assignments, including the Editorial Letter.

Conduct:

Students, employees, and academic staff are also expected to demonstrate behaviour in class that promotes and maintains a positive and productive learning environment. As members of the University community, students, employees, and academic staff are expected to demonstrate conduct that is consistent with the University of Calgary Calendar, the Code of Conduct and Non-Academic Misconduct policy and procedures, which can be found at: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>

Policy on use of electronic devices:

The use of laptop and mobile devices in class is acceptable when used in a manner appropriate to the course and classroom activities. Students may take notes on a laptop or tablet (and are required to bring one to the seminar class), but mobile phones should be stowed away in students' bags when not specifically in use for a class exercise. Please refrain from accessing

websites and resources that may be distracting to you or for other learners during class time. Students are responsible for being aware of the University's [Internet and email use policy](#).

Grading System:

This course will use a combination of percentages and letter grades. Please see the following percentage conversion scale.

90 + %	A+	4.0	67 – 69 %	C+	2.3
85 – 89 %	A	4.0	64 – 66 %	C	2.0
80 – 84 %	A–	3.7	60 – 63 %	C–	1.7
77 – 79 %	B+	3.3	55 – 59 %	D+	1.3
74 – 76 %	B	3.0	50 – 54 %	D	1.0
70 – 73 %	B–	2.7	0 – 49 %	F	0

- Students must reach the minimum percentage threshold for the grade range to receive that letter grade. For example, to receive an A- a student must have surpassed the minimum threshold of 80.00% in the course.
- Although the A+ is solely an honorific that entails no additional points in the four-point system, the course instructor will employ this mark to distinguish superlative work that far exceeds expectations in style, correctness, intellectual depth and breadth, sophistication, and originality.
- The interpretation of the undergraduate university grading system can be found at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/f-1-1.html>
- There is no D- grade.

Academic Integrity:

This course, like all courses at the University of Calgary, holds students to high standards of honest and responsible scholarship. Please consult the [Academic Integrity website](#) for a detailed description of university policies, which will be enforced in this course. Cases of suspected academic misconduct will be referred to the Associate Dean of Arts for a ruling.

Plagiarism is a type of academic misconduct. Plagiarism occurs when a student presents the ideas, expression of ideas, or work of another person as their own. Another equally serious form of plagiarism occurs when a student submits something they have written themselves for credit in two or more courses without first securing written permission from all those course instructors. Consequences for plagiarism include failure on the assignment, failure in the course, and possible suspension or expulsion from the university. Using any source whatsoever without clearly documenting it is a serious academic offense.

Deferral of term work and final examinations:

Should you require an extension for completion of term papers or assignments beyond the deadline of five days after the end of lectures, an [Application of Deferment of Term Work](#) must

be completed. It is the student's responsibility to initiate this process with the instructor. The University also has regulations governing the [deferral of final examinations](#).

Grade appeals:

To pursue a Reassessment of Graded Term Work or a Reappraisal of an Academic Assessment, Consult the [University Calendar](#) and request advice from the English Department at engl@ucalgary.ca. Please note that mere dissatisfaction with a grade is not sufficient grounds for an appeal.

[English Department Website:](#)

For more information about courses, programs, policies, events and contacts in the Department of English.

Scribe and Muse Club for English Students:

The [Scribe and Muse Reading and Writing Club](#) fosters and champions reading and writing through community service, leadership, and engagement. Our email address is smecuofc@gmail.com.

Writing support:

[The Student Success Centre](#) offers both online and workshop writing support for U of C students.

[Academic regulations and schedules](#)

Student Academic Accommodations:

The Student Accessibility Services website is available [here](#). University accommodation policies can be found at the following links:

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/b-6-1.html>

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/b-6.html>

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/b-6-2.html>

Program Advising and Student Information Resources is done through the Faculty of Arts Students' Centre. Office location: SS102; phone: 403-220-3580; email: ascarts@ucalgary.ca
Website: <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate>

Instructor's Intellectual Property

Course materials created by instructors, including presentations, posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments, and exams, remain the intellectual property of the instructor. These materials may not be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the instructor. The posting of course materials to third party websites such as note-sharing sites without permission is prohibited. Sharing of extracts of these course materials with other students enrolled in the course at the same time may be allowed under fair dealing.

Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy

Student information will be collected in accordance with usual classroom practice. Students' assignments will be accessible only by the authorized course faculty and teaching assistants. Private information related to the individual student is treated with the utmost regard by the faculty at the University of Calgary.

Research Ethics

- If a student is interested in undertaking an assignment that will involve collecting information from members of the public, they should speak with the course instructor and consult the CFREB Ethics (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/research/researchers/ethics-compliance/cfreb>) before beginning the assignment.

Sexual violence policy:

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Sexual-and-Gender-Based-Violence-Policy.pdf>

Other important information:

- [Wellness and Mental Health Resources](#)
- [Student Success](#)
- [Student Ombuds Office](#)
- [Student Union \(SU\) Information](#)
- [Graduate Students' Association \(GSA\) Information](#)
- [Emergency Evacuation/Assembly Points](#)
- [Safewalk](#)

Universal Student Ratings of Instruction (USRI):

Please participate in [USRI Surveys](#) toward the end of the course. The feedback they provide helps us evaluate teaching, enhance student learning, and guide students as they select courses.