UNIVERSITY OF
CALGARY

FACULTY OF ARTS
Department of English

COURSE OUTLINE

ENGL 336.04 Lecture 01:
Creative Writing Practice Across the Genres
SPRING 2023

Class Schedule: Tuesday/Thursday | 09:00 – 11:45 | TI STUDIOA
No Final Exam in this class.

Instructor	Dr. Jonathon Wilcke, Ph.D. (they/them)
Email:	jonathon.wilcke@ucalgary.ca
Web Page:	D2L (access via MyUofC portal)
Contact Hours:	In-person Office Consultation (Social Science 1136) Available after class for brief consultations. Available for in-person consultation by Appointment Tuesday/Thursday afternoons from 1-3 PM. *Please email jonathon.wilcke@ucalgary.ca to make an appointment.* No contact hours during reading breaks, weekends, and holidays. Office location is SS 1136 (Social Sciences tower 11th floor)

Course description:
An introduction to the elements of creative writing as the basis of an artistic practice.
This course may not be repeated for credit.

Expanded Description:
ENGL 336.04 introduces students to the practice of multi-generic creative writing (poetry/fiction/creative nonfiction/the essay) and the crucial components of its practice, including self-assessment, sharing writing with other writers, developing a sense of audience, public presentation and performance, preparing manuscripts, engaging literature for ideas, and developing community. Through several writing assignments, small-group workshops, and readings of contemporary cross-genre writing, we will develop a "tool kit" of approaches and understand our own writing within a broader field of historical and current-contemporary literary practices.

The goal of the course is to complete a short manuscript that uses poetry, fiction, and the creative nonfiction genres in a hybrid fashion. What if we propose, for example, that no fundamental differences exist between the three genres? What edges of genre must we maintain, what do we reject, and what edges erode? These are questions students will engage during the process of writing their manuscript over a series of several shorter writing submissions.

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.

Course learning outcomes:

During the semester, students will:

1. Develop their original poetry, fiction, creative non-fiction, and hybridized writing, through a process of writing and revision based on feedback.
2. Learn and apply analytical skills to the practice of reading and writing literature, including close reading, thematic/symbolic/pattern interpretation, and prosodic analysis.
3. Learn to apply fundamental technical vocabulary for each genre.
4. Develop their ability to write exegetically about issues of, for example, form and content, structure, seriality, the poetic line, diction, prosody, and structure, and conceive of these issues as material for writing.
5. Gain exposure to a variety of attitudes, writing styles, techniques, and approaches that comprise the field of poetry.
6. Learn how to give, receive, and apply feedback.

Required Texts and Readings (available in the bookstore):

Pagh, Nancy. *The Write Moves: A Creative Writing Guide and Anthology.* Broadview, 2016.

Rankine, Claudia. *Citizen: An American Lyric.* Graywolf, 2014.

Tagaq, Tanya. *Split Tooth*.

Wah, Fred. *Diamond Grill*. NeWest 2006.

Other Required Texts and Readings

(Readings are provided on D2L; excerpts clarified on Reading Schedule):

Derrida, Jacques. "The Law of Genre."

Harryman, Carla. *Vice.*

Perelman, Bob. *The Marginalization of Poetry.*

Stein, Gertrude. *Tender Buttons*.

Stein, Gertrude. *The Autobiography of Alice B. Toklas.*

Woolf, Virginia. "The Mark on the Wall."

Learning technology requirement:

Students will need to have access to computer equipment suitable for accessing D2L for course materials and submitting assignments.

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

Students may also wish to have a laptop computer or tablet in the classroom to read any materials provided via D2L. Alternately, students may print electronic material for use in the classroom (use of technology in the classroom is not necessarily required).

Assessments and Evaluation:

3 Major Writing Submissions (2-5) pages per submission depending on genre	20%
Project Proposal	5%
In-Class Writing	15%
Workshop Writing Feedback (3 submissions; You must be present in-class to take place in each workshop to get credit for feedback)	15%
Critical Reading Response (1 Response, 750-1000 words)	20%
Manuscript	25%

- Students must complete the full course of 3 Writing Submissions to complete the Manuscript assignment. This means you must submit all 3 submissions on time for them to qualify as Manuscript-worthy.
- There are no extra credit assignments available in this course.
- Assignment revisions for the purpose of upgrading will not be permitted.

Description of assignments
Detailed instructions will be provided via D2L. Deadlines will appear on Reading Schedule.

3 Workshop Writing Submissions (2-5 pages depending on genre)
Participants will make 3 submissions of original writing to the instructor and to their workshop partners, who will provide written and verbal feedback on the writing during scheduled in-person workshops.

In-Class Writing
We will perform several in-class writing experiments and exercises over the course of the semester. You must be present in class to perform the in-class writing. You will submit completed exercises twice per semester.

Workshop Writing Feedback (2 full pages per workshop)
You will participate in workshop activities over the course of the semester in groups of 2 or 3. Workshop meetings will take place in the classroom. During the meetings, group members will discuss each other's writing and give verbal feedback. You will write one page of comments for each partner in the group and submit the feedback to each partner and to the instructor. Providing feedback not only supports your workshop partner but it also helps increase your understanding of the audience of poetry, or, how a reader reads.

Critical Reading Response (750-1000 words)
This assignment is a critical writing assignment that asks you to respond critically to texts assigned to you on the Reading Schedule. You are asked to make assessments of the writers' styles, approaches, forms, themes, and other details from the point of view of a writer. The assignment teaches you how to apply relevant literary ideas and approaches your own work to help you towards developing the scope of your own writing. You will choose which author and text to write about from the reading schedule and write about the piece in terms of its genre and form, and its hybrid nature.

Manuscript Proposal and Manuscript
The Manuscript consists of revised Major Submissions and in-class writing assignments developed to fit the manuscript's form.

Students will propose and develop a complete and cohesive long-form manuscript constructed out of in-class writing and your workshop submissions. You may develop your project using any theme, procedure, approach, or inspiration,

with the one rule being that it must somehow combine the three genres and form a whole. You need not maintain your original trajectory over the course of the semester; rather, the proposal is guide for you to work out your ideas.

Attendance and participation expectations

1. This course is delivered in synchronous lecture format (in-person and in the classroom).
2. You are expected to attend each class. Exercises and other core course components are delivered during class only.
3. Verbal participation in class is encouraged but not required.
4. You are expected to participate in small-group workshops that include reading and providing feedback on your workshop partners' writing.
5. You are expected to be present to perform all in-class writing activities.
6. Instructor will provide course notes on key concepts via D2L but no detailed play-by-play lecture notes will be provided. Students are expected to attend every class to learn course content. Lectures will not be recorded or presented online.
7. If you miss a class, the instructor is happy to meet with you to discuss any specific course material concerns you may have but will not repeat missed lectures and will not provide a review of the class and missed materials.
8. Instructor will not provide updates or reviews of missed lectures via email.
9. Vacations, family trips, work responsibilities, weddings, heavy courseloads, midterms for other classes, etc. are not considered valid reasons for missing a class or for missing submission deadlines.
10. If you miss a workshop, you will be unable to make up the workshop and will receive a grade of F/0 on the feedback portion of your grade. Arrangements may be made for situations of absence due to medical/compassionate reasons.

Assignment Deadlines

Due to the time-intensive nature of the course and its dependence on regular submissions, late submissions will not be permitted. Late submissions will be penalized one-third grade point per day until three days have passed, at which time you will receive an F/0. Instructor will give due consideration for medical and compassionate reasons. Instructor will not notify you regarding missing or unreadable assignments and will not provide reminders of deadlines if you have outstanding materials.

If you must miss a workshop because you are sick, please inform your workshop partner and your instructor. Arrangements can be made for missed workshops for medical or compassionate reasons. New arrangements for workshops will not be made for lateness or non-medical/non-compassionate absences. Failure to participate in a workshop results in a forfeiture of the Workshop Feedback grade.

How to Submit EVERYTHING

1. Submit EVERYTHING via D2L unless otherwise instructed.
2. Submit EVERYTHING in MS Word format.
3. Documents that cannot be opened will not be graded.
4. Instructor will not inform students of submission problems and will not accept emailed assignments.
5. Label the file name with your name, class, and assignment, i.e.: Tina Kovacs Assignment 1 ENGL 336.01.

Appointments

Please email for appointments 24 hours in advance. Same-day appointments are not available. Due to the volume of appointment requests, I cannot guarantee I can see you immediately. During exam periods and other critical times, I may not be able to honor all requests for appointments. I encourage you to seek feedback on your writing before the assignments are due.

Email Use Guidelines

Feel free to email me with questions about course material and other concerns. If you have complex questions, make a consultation appointment. I read and respond to email on working days between 10AM - 4PM and will reply within three working days. I do not read email on weekends or holidays or during scheduled reading breaks.

When you write to me, please observe the following communication standards:

1. Begin with a greeting. For example, "Hello Dr. Wilcke/Dear Dr. Wilcke" are acceptable greetings. "Hey Dr. Wilcke," "Hey man," "Hi Wilcke," or "Whasssup?" for example, are not suitable.
2. End with a closing.
3. Write in complete sentences using plain language as if you are writing a letter rather than sending a brief message or a text.
4. Proofread your email to make sure it communicates.
5. I may delete emails without responding if they contain: questions about exam or other due dates, requests for information present in the Course Outline and Reading Schedule, or "how to" questions about MLA documentation. I also may delete emails if they contain rude language, inappropriate attachments, information that affects privacy (yours and mine), and if they make demands (rather than requests).

Consultations, Communication, and Privacy

During consultations, I am available to assist with:

1. Reviewing drafts of assignments
2. Reviewing course content
3. General writing help

Reviewing drafts of assignments

If you want to review your assignments with me, please make an appointment or attend office hours. Please come and see me BEFORE the scheduled due date. I will not give consultations for late assignments (exceptions will be made at my discretion). I will read and reply to email requests for reviews before the due date but will provide only minimal feedback. I will not provide email feedback for late assignments.

Concerns with course progress and Extensions

If you have medical, compassionate, or other concerns that affect your progress in this course, please inform me as soon as possible.

During the term, if you require an extension for *medical or compassionate reasons,* make a request for an extension. I consider all requests on a case-by-case basis. Making a request for an extension does not guarantee an extension.

Instructor insists that students protect their own and the instructor's privacy.

Do not report extensive details about your reasons for making a request for extension. I will give due consideration to all reasonable requests for extensions and requests related to course progress. You do not have to, and should not, provide extensive details to prove the legitimacy of your request.

Do not submit medical documentation to me. Do not submit photos as evidence for a medical condition or compassionate situation. I will immediately delete any emails (without reply) if I suspect they contain documents or attachments that invite a breach of privacy.

Sources and Documentation
All sources must be documented in a bibliography and cited in your assignments using in-text citations in MLA style as necessary. If you cite or otherwise use another poet's work in your own poetry submission, cite the work in a footnote using MLA style.

Topics, Approaches, and Representation Guidelines
I encourage you to explore any topic and approach you wish to work with, whether it be political, critical, humorous, sarcastic, silly, aspirational, spiritual, epideictic, etc. You are encouraged to work within genres and forms that appeal to you, which may include romance, drama, horror, crime, investigative, fantasy, gothic perspectives, etc. You are not forbidden from writing sexual content, using erotic connotations, or representing the human body and its functions. You may include profanity, bad language, and "off-color" material as necessary. You may include violence if it is part of the critical aspect of your writing or is part of a genre you are using (i.e. fantasy). You may write poems that offer criticism of people or groups, governments, ideologies, and social systems and structures so long as you intend to criticize rather than defame or direct vitriol and you do not attempt to offend for the purpose of offense.

The following topics are not permitted:
1. Misogyny, racism, classism, sexism, Transphobia, homophobia, targeted violence or connotations of such, derogatory language of any kind intended to hurt, defame, or create hate.
    a. Assignments that contain the above will not be accepted.
    b. Note: writing ABOUT sexism, racism, violence, etc. is of course acceptable. Writing that is sexist, racist, or violent in nature and/or promotes the acceptance and normalization of such is not acceptable.
    c. For the purposes of this class, there is no such thing as "accidental" sexism, racism, misogyny, etc. Ignorance of the problem is not a reasonable excuse.
2. Writing that appears to threaten or insult people or groups will similarly be rejected.

Topics and approaches you should avoid in general when sharing in this class:
1. Toilet humor and the gratuitous depiction of bodily functions or reference to bodily functions for no purpose other than to depict those functions.
2. Graphic depictions of violence and disturbing acts for the purpose of depicting those acts; violent aesthetics.
    - This does not prevent you from writing poetry that has a horror context, containing or referring to murder, or war context, for example, but rather, it is the gratuitous depiction that is the problem.
3. Pornography and graphic depictions of sexual encounters for aesthetic purposes; "erotica"
    - This does not prevent you from writing detailed sex scenes or depicting a sexual encounter, or creating erotic or romantic connotations, but rather it is the gratuitous depiction that is the problem.
4. Things that are "gratuitous" in general (i.e. depictions for the sake of the depiction; with the intention to create disgust for the sake of creating disgust or offense; gross-out poetry)

You are invited to discuss any of the matters above with your instructor.

Conduct:
Students, employees, and academic staff are 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. 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.** Electronic devices are not permitted during the Final Examination.

Grading System:
Student work will be assessed using numerical grades according to the English Department's 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

- The interpretation of the undergraduate university grading system can be found at **https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/f-1-1.html**
- 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.

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.

Sexual violence policy:
https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/sexual-violence-policy.pdf

Other important information:
- Wellness and Mental Health Resources
- Student Success
- Student Ombuds Office

- <u>Student Union (SU) Information</u>
- <u>Graduate Students' Association (GSA) Information</u>
- <u>Emergency Evacuation/Assembly Points</u>
- <u>Safewalk</u>