

COURSE SPECIFICATION DOCUMENT

Academic School/Department:	Communications, Art and Social Sciences
Programme:	BA Contemporary Literature and Creative Writing
FHEQ Level:	5
Course Title:	Reading and Writing Short Stories
Course Code:	CRW 5205
Course Leader:	Dr Sara Chetin
Student Engagement Hours:	120
Lectures:	15
Seminar / Tutorials:	30
Independent / Guided Learning:	75
Semester:	Fall, Spring
Credits:	12 UK CATS credits 6 ECTS credits 3 US credits

Course Description:

This course introduces students to a wide range of twentieth- and twenty-first-century short stories predominantly from Europe and America. It provides a critical framework for the understanding and analysis of short fiction, and introduces students to key authors and themes of the form. The approach is through creative writing practice: classes incorporate a writer's workshop, in which students explore the short story form in detail, through reading and writing, and students are encouraged to read as writers. Students regularly submit their work-in-progress for critical consideration by the instructor and other members of the class.

Prerequisites: CRW 3200 or ARW 4195

Aims and Objectives:

- To become active and perceptive readers of the multifaceted nature of short story writing

- To critically engage with key authors, concepts, styles and themes of the short story
- To apply a variety of storytelling techniques to the creative process of writing
- To develop the necessary analytical skills involved in the writing process, including regular self-assessment, revision, group work and feedback reflection

Programme Outcomes:

5Aii ; 5Aiii ; 5Bii ; 5Biii ; 5Cii ; 5Ciii ; 5Di ; 5Dii ; 5Diii

A detailed list of the programme outcomes is found in the Programme Specification. This is maintained by Registry and located at:

<http://www.richmond.ac.uk/program-and-course-specifications/>

Learning Outcomes:

By the end of this course, successful students should be able to:

- Demonstrate a detailed understanding of the historical contexts, theories and concepts relevant to the short story genre
- Demonstrate an understanding of ways specific movements and writers have shaped creative writing practices across a variety of media
- Demonstrate a critical engagement with different approaches to the short story and their application to creative writing practices
- Demonstrate engagement with a variety of writing techniques and the process of producing numerous drafts, responding to continual feedback and evaluating their own writing strategies

Indicative Content:

- Historical Influences and types of short stories, including flash fiction
- Character, Point of View, Voice
- Theories of Omission/iceberg effect
- Motivation and Conflict
- Epiphany
- Use of time, flashback, pace
- Revising, Cutting, Editing

Assessment:

This course conforms to the University Assessment Norms approved at Academic Board.

Teaching Methodology:

Course meetings consist of interactive lectures and close readings of assigned stories, small group discussions and reflection activities. Students engage in weekly writing exercises and then shape their work outside of class, submitting it the following week for peer and instructor review. Students work towards developing a portfolio of short stories. Student work is assessed through a variety of ways using both formative and summative approaches.

Bibliography:

See syllabus for complete reading list

Indicative Text(s):

Bailey, *On Writing Short Stories*, Oxford University Press 1999

Jos Fl Vio Nogueira Guimar Es, *The Short-Short Story: A New Literary Genre*. Strategic Book publishing, 2012.

Please Note: The core and the reference texts will be reviewed at the time of designing the semester syllabus

Change Log for this CSD:

Major or Minor Change?	Nature of Change	Date Approved & Approval Body (School or LTPC)	Change Actioned by Academic Registry
Major	Change Course Code to CRW	LTPC 28/11/2014	
Major	Revision of Course Description	LTPC 28/11/2014	
Major	Change of pre-req	LTPC 28/11/2014	
Major	Mapped new Prog Outcomes for new major	LTPC 28/11/2014	
Major	Revised Learning Outcomes	LTPC 28/11/2014	
Minor	Minor revisions to Indicative Content	LTPC 28/11/2014	
Minor	Revised Indicative Texts	LTPC 28/11/2014	