

American College Dublin

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CW200 INTRODUCTION TO CREATIVE WRITING

Credits:	3 US credits / 6 ECTS credits
Credit level:	Stage one
Prerequisites:	None
Mandatory:	Yes
Contact hours:	40
Academic Year:	2016/17
Semester:	2
Lecturer:	Seán O'Raghallaigh

MODULE DESCRIPTION

Introduces the main types of creative writing and explores approaches to expression in each of them. Examines structure, development of subject matter, authorial voice and point of view, plotting, dialogue, close reading, and editing of one's own work. Includes aspects of writing short stories, the novel, poetry, plays, blogs, along with other creative writing genres that students might propose as areas of particular interest.

INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES

At the end of this course students should be able to:

1. Comprehend the basic elements of prose writing (the short story in particular) such as point of view, character, dialogue, dramatic tension, irony.
2. Comprehend the basic elements of writing verse.
3. Utilise a writer's notebook.
4. Present their own work to others and listen to constructive feedback.
5. Understand the process of revision/drafting.
6. Further explore their own needs for creative self-expression.
7. Apply what they have learned to other types of writing such as social media.

COURSE OUTLINE

We will first of all explore the question of where the writing comes from, using creative writing exercises and prompts to inspire and uncover the individual's imagination. We will then move on to

consider the constitutive elements of short stories and poems. Students will be required to produce their own writing regularly in response to group exercises in class and group readings. Also, students will be expected to keep a Writer's Notebook.

REQUIRED TEXT

The tutor will provide much of the reading material in photocopy form and with online links.

SUPPLEMENTARY READING LIST

The Portable Creative Writing Workshop, Pat Boran. Dedalus press.

How Fiction Works, James Woods, Vintage.

Reading like a Writer, Francine Prose.

Riverside Anthology of Short Fiction, ed., Dean R. Baldwin.

The Norton Anthology of Poetry, ed., Arthur Eastman.

The Making of a Poem: A Norton Anthology of Poetic Forms, ed., Mark Strand.

INTERNET WEBSITES

www.stingingfly.org

www.classicshorts.com

www.theparisreview.org

www.thethoughtfox.co.uk

www.newyorker.com

www.poetryarchive.org

www.poetryfoundation.org

www.poemhunter.com

ASSESSMENT/GRADING

The grading is cumulative and will involve the following types of assessment and their weighting:

1. Participation, including attendance and active involvement in classroom activities: 40%
2. One piece of a creative writing prose/poetry: 60%

The grading scale used by American College Dublin is the following: A (80-100%), B+ (70-79%), B (60-69%), B- (55-59%), C+ (50-54%), C (40-49%), D (35-39%), F (below 35%).