



School of English, Journalism
& European Languages

Unit Outline

HEA203/303
Writing Poetry and Short Fiction
Semester 2, 2007
<http://www.utas.edu.au/english>

Convenor:	Dr Danielle Wood Room: Social Sciences Building, Rm 578 Phone: 6226 2366 Email: Danielle.Wood@utas.edu.au (Replies can be expected within one week)
Consultation Hours:	Mondays 3-4pm
Unit Description:	This unit introduces students to the steps involved in producing polished creative work in the genres of poetry and short fiction: generating ideas through writing exercises, improving work through redrafting, and refining work through copy-editing. Seminars will focus on aspects of writing craft and on theoretical ideas about the role of the writer. Workshops enable students to receive critical feedback on their own work and develop skills in critiquing the work of their peers.
Learning Outcomes:	By the end of this course, if you have fully engaged with it, you should: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Be able to recognise and apply conventions of two or more poetic forms.2. Be able to recognise and apply basic proofreading symbols.3. Have developed skills in evaluating the creative writing of others.4. Understand and be able to apply improvisational creative writing techniques.5. Be able to use critical feedback to redraft and refine your own creative work.6. Be able to source and apply relevant theories of writing to your own creative work.
Required Texts:	Smith, <i>Writing Experiment: Strategies For Innovative Creative Writing</i> Tredinnick, Mark, <i>Little Red Writing Book</i> HEA203/303 Writing Poetry And Short Fiction Unit Reader

Recommended Texts:	Strand (ed), <i>Making of a Poem : Norton Anthology of Poetic Forms</i>
When Taught:	<p>Students will attend 1x1.5hr seminar weekly and 1x1hr workshop weekly</p> <p>Seminar Wed 2.10pm-3.40 pm, Physics212.LT1</p> <p>Workshop times Mon, 11-11.50am, SB.SocSci581 Mon 12-12.50, SB.SocSci581 Mon 3.10-4.00pm, SB.SocSci581 Mon 4.10-5.00om, SB.SocSci581</p>
Assessment:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Portfolio of creative writing incorporating two poems (20%) and a work of short fiction (50%) 2. Workbook tasks (1250 words total): 20%; 3. Workshop critique of draft work (5 minutes): 10%

LECTURE/SEMINAR SCHEDULE

Date	Topic	Lecturer
18.7	INTRODUCTION Craft and Creativity	Danielle Wood
25.7	POETRY Classic Poetic Forms: The Sonnet and the Villanelle (Read the sections in the Unit Reader on the Villanelle and the Sonnet)	Sarah Day
1.8	POETRY Free Verse	Benny Walter
8.8	SHORT FICTION Words	Danielle Wood
15.8	SHORT FICTION Sentences	Danielle Wood
22.8	SHORT FICTION Ideas (Read 'The Chance' by Peter Carey and 'Habit' by Cate Kennedy)	Danielle Wood
29.8	SHORT FICTION Scope (Read 'Seizure' by Cate Kennedy)	Danielle Wood
12.9	SHORT FICTION Proofreading and Critiquing (Read Proofreading Marks)	Danielle Wood
19.9	SHORT FICTION Show and Tell (Read 'Any Dog' by Sonya Hartnett)	Danielle Wood
26.9	SHORT FICTION Point of View (Read 'Georgica' by AM Homes, 'You Could Be Anyone' by Melissa Bank, and 'Breaking the Pig', by Etgar Keret.	Danielle Wood
3.10	VISITING WRITER	TBC
10.10	SHORT FICTION The End (Read 'Elephantiasis' - versions one and two - by Danielle Wood)	Danielle Wood
17.10	NO LECTURE	-----

WORKSHOP SCHEDULE

Date	Topic	Tutor
16.7	NO WORKSHOP	
23.7	Improvisation	Danielle Wood
30.7	Improvisation	Danielle Wood
6.8	Workshopping Student Poems	Anica Boulanger-Mashberg / Adam Ousten
13.8	Workshopping Student Poems	Anica Boulanger-Mashberg / Adam Ousten
20.8	Workshopping Student Poems	Anica Boulanger-Mashberg / Adam Ousten
27.8	Allocating critiques	Danielle Wood
10.9	Workshopping Student Short Fiction	Anica Boulanger-Mashberg / Adam Ousten
17.9	Workshopping Student Short Fiction	Anica Boulanger-Mashberg / Adam Ousten
24.9	Workshopping Student Short Fiction	Anica Boulanger-Mashberg / Adam Ousten
1.10	Workshopping Student Short Fiction	Anica Boulanger-Mashberg / Adam Ousten
8.10	Workshopping Student Short Fiction	Anica Boulanger-Mashberg / Adam Ousten
15.10	Workshopping Student Short Fiction	Anica Boulanger-Mashberg / Adam Ousten

ASSESSMENT

DUE ON FRIDAY AUGUST 3

1. Workbook Task 1: Review

Write a 500-word review of *The Little Red Writing Book*, by Mark Tredinnick.

Your assignment should be typed and double-spaced.

You will be marked on the following:

- evidence of thorough knowledge of the text.
- coherence of argument.
- use of language.
- editorial polish.

Hand in your review to the School Office with a signed coversheet. Assignments submitted without a signed coversheet cannot be marked. This task is worth 10% of your overall mark and will assess learning outcome 3.

2. Draft Poem:

Write a poem in any of the following forms: villanelle, sonnet, free verse (if free verse, not more than 20 lines). Submit TWENTY COPIES of the poem to the School Office, not forgetting to attach a signed coversheet. This draft will be workshopped, not marked, but any late penalties incurred at this time will be applied when the final draft is due (on August 31).

DUE ON THURSDAY AUGUST 23

Compose one or more works of short fiction comprising 2000 words in total. Submit TWENTY COPIES of your work to the School Office, not forgetting to attach a signed coversheet. This draft will be workshopped, not marked, but any late penalties incurred at this time will be applied when the final draft is due (on October 26).

DUE ON FRIDAY AUGUST 31

Poetry

Submit two poems.

One must be either a) a villanelle, or b) a sonnet.

The other must be a work of free verse, not longer than 15 lines.

One of these poems will have been refined and polished as a result of critical feedback given in workshops.

You will be marked on the following:

- understanding of the conventions of the form.
- use of language.
- editorial polish.

This task is worth 20% of your overall mark and will assess learning outcomes 1, 4 and 5.

DUE BETWEEN WEEK BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 10 and WEEK BEGINNING OCTOBER 8

In workshops, you will be assigned a work of short fiction written by another member of your workshop. You will need to present a five-minute in-class critique of this work. You will be scheduled to present your critique in a workshop between the weeks beginning September 10 and October 11. In addition to the 5-minute class presentation, you are required to provide two proofread copies of the short fiction (marked up using standard proofreading symbols), giving one to your tutor and one to the work's author.

You will be marked on the following:

- clarity of oral presentation.
- quality of analysis.
- use of language.
- use of proofreading marks.
- editorial judgement.

This task is worth 10% of your overall mark and will assess learning outcomes 2 and 3.

DUE FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 28

Workbook Task 2: Artist's Statement

700 words

Working from a list of suggested sources, select an article on an aspect of writing that is relevant to your own creative output (poetry or short fiction). Using the ideas in that article, prepare a 700-word artist's statement about your writing and yourself as a writer. Hand in your artist's statement to the School Office with a signed coversheet. Assignments submitted without a signed coversheet cannot be marked. You will be marked on:

- use of secondary sources.
- coherence of argument.
- use of language.
- quality of analysis.
- editorial polish.

This task is worth 10% of your overall mark and will assess learning outcome 6.

DUE FRIDAY OCTOBER 26

Short fiction

Submit a final draft of your work/s of short fiction (2000 words in total), refined and polished as a result of critical feedback received in workshops.

You will be marked on:

- creativity.
- use of language.
- editorial polish.

This task is worth 50% of your overall mark and will assess learning outcomes 4 and 5.

TO BE ASSESSED IN THIS UNIT:

You must complete all assessable tasks (workbook tasks one and two, draft poem, draft short fiction, final poetry, final short fiction, in-class critique). Otherwise you will either be deemed ineligible for final assessment in this unit, or be required to submit additional work.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Submission of Assignments

Students are required to submit a signed cover sheet with every assignment. This includes a declaration that all material submitted is their own work except where there is clear acknowledgement or reference to the work of others and that they have read the University statement on Academic Misconduct (Plagiarism) on the University website at www.utas.edu.au/plagiarism or in the Student Information Handbook.

Assignment cover sheets are available from the School office or the School website. **Assignments submitted without a signed cover sheet will not be marked.** Students who submit assignments without a signed cover sheet will be contacted once via their UTAS email address; in such instances the cover sheet must be completed within two weeks of the due date.

All assignments must be submitted in hard-copy (not by email) and placed in the essay box at the School office on or before 5pm on the due date. Students are required to keep copies of all submitted assignments. Assignments submitted on time will be returned within three weeks of the due date; once on time assignments have been returned no further late assignments will be accepted. All marked assignments will be returned in tutorials unless otherwise advised.

Late Assignments

Late submissions will be penalized as follows: 5% of the available marks for the first day, and then 2% per working day thereafter. Late work will be accepted without penalty if accompanied by a medical certificate for the relevant period or a letter from a counsellor in the case of a serious non-medical reason.

Difficulties with your Studies

If you are experiencing difficulties with your studies or assignments, have personal or life planning issues, disability or illness which may affect your course of study, you should raise these with your lecturer and/or one of the following Student Services staff as soon as possible:

- Learning Skills Adviser
- Disability Adviser
- Careers Adviser
- Student Counsellor

University Statement on Plagiarism and Academic Integrity

"Plagiarism is a form of cheating. It is taking and using someone else's thoughts, writings or inventions and representing them as your own; for example, using an author's words without putting them in quotation marks and citing the source, using an author's ideas without proper acknowledgment and citation, copying another student's work.

If you have any doubts about how to refer to the work of others in your assignments, please consult your lecturer or tutor for relevant referencing guidelines, and the academic integrity resources on the web at <http://www.utas.edu.au/tl/supporting/academicintegrity/index.html>.

The intentional copying of someone else's work as one's own is a serious offence punishable by penalties that may range from a fine or deduction/cancellation of marks and, in the most serious of cases, to exclusion from a unit, a course or the University. Details of penalties that can be imposed are available in the Ordinance of Student Discipline – Part 3 Academic Misconduct, see <http://www.utas.edu.au/universitycouncil/legislation/>.

The University and any persons authorised by the University may submit your assessable works to a plagiarism checking service, to obtain a report on possible instances of plagiarism. Assessable works may also be included in a reference database. It is a condition of this arrangement that the original author's permission is required before a work within the database can be viewed.

Assignment Presentation

The English discipline uses MLA Style, which is characterized by in-text referencing and a list of works cited. See the *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers*, 6th ed. Ed. Joseph Gibaldi (New York: The Modern Language Association of America, 2003). For a brief introduction, refer to http://www.utas.edu.au/english/english1/mla_citation_syst.doc, MLA Citations System: A Brief Guide.

Marking Scale

The following distribution of marks and grades is applied in assessing your work:

- High Distinction (HD)—80-100%
- Distinction (DN)—70-79%
- Credit (CR)—60-69%
- Pass (PP)—50-59%
- Fail (NN)—0-49%

All marks are subject to moderation.

Assessment Criteria

The following criteria apply to assessment of the essay:

- Effectiveness of introduction
- Relevance and coherence of argument
- Effectiveness of conclusion
- Scope of textual referencing
- Use of critics
- Attention to expression, spelling, proof-reading and stylesheet.

IT Support

Learning online—for online learning and Vista support – <http://www.utas.edu.au/coursesonline/>
Information Technology Services—for general IT Support (includes link to UTAS download website)
<http://www.utas.edu.au/servicedesk/student/index.html>

Library Services—for information literacy support – <http://www.utas.edu.au/library/>
Help Desk (email HelpDesk@utas.edu.au or 6226 1818, within University 1818)