

English 3998E - 530
Creative Writing

Instructors:

F18: Dr. Monika Lee

W19: Dr. Carolyn Weber

Brescia University College

Classroom: Rm. 252, Ursuline Hall

Time: Tuesdays 2:30 – 5:30 p.m.

First Term Office: Rm. 335A, Ursuline Hall

First Term Office Hours: Mondays, 2:30 – 3:30 p.m.; Thursdays, 12:30 – 1:30 p.m. or by appointment.

Telephone: 432-8353 ext. 28032.

E-mail: mlee5@uwo.ca. E-mailed assignments are not accepted. Hard copies only. No e-mailed attachments.

Course Description:

The course is designed to exercise and improve *creative* writing skills through group workshops, assignments in a variety of genres, and individual consultation with the instructor. The workshops involve students reading, critiquing and discussing writing by classmates for the development of editorial skills. Regular attendance is essential.

Course Prerequisites: Permission of the instructor based on the submission of a portfolio in February. (No audits allowed).

Course Materials:

Recommended Text:

Reading Like A Writer: A Guide for People Who Love Books and For Those Who Want to Write Them. Francine Prose. New York, Harper, 2007.

Evaluation:

Course Components

Four Writing Assignments (genres/topics assigned) (10% each)	40%
Workshops (student selects own topic and genre)	40%

Performance in Workshop, including editorial work on classmates' writing (mandatory). 20%

Portfolio of work submitted at the end of the Year includes all the above assignments including revisions.

Final grades on these assignments will be awarded at the end of the year after I read originals and revisions.

Policy on Late Assignments: All workshop materials must be submitted to classmates and to the instructor one week prior to the scheduled workshop. All other assignments must be submitted on the day when they are due. Up to 10% will be deducted from the final grade on the portfolio when any assignments have not been submitted according to this schedule.

SCHEDULE OF CLASSES:

Tues. Sept. 11 - Introduction to the course; Sign-up for workshops in first and second term; (Workshop materials due)

Tues. Sept. 18 - Lecture; Writing Prompts; Instructions for Assignment #1 (Workshop Materials due)

Tues. Sept. 25 – Mini-Lecture; Workshop (Materials due).

Tues. Oct. 2 - Workshop (Materials due); **ASSIGNMENT 1 DUE**

THANKSGIVING AND FALL READING WEEK Oct. 8 - 12

Tues. Oct. 16 - Workshop (Materials due)

Tues. Oct. 23 - Workshop (Materials due).

Tues. Oct. 30 - Workshop (Materials due); Instructions for Assignment #2.

Tues. Nov. 6 - Workshop (Materials due)

Tues. Nov. 13 - Workshop (Materials due); **ASSIGNMENT 2 DUE**

Tues. Nov. 20 - Workshop (Materials due)

Tues. Nov. 27 - Workshop (Materials due)

Tues. Dec. 4 - Workshop (Materials due); Instructions for Assignment #3.

CHRISTMAS BREAK

Instructor W19: Dr. Carolyn Weber, Brescia University College

E-mail: cweber43@uwo.ca E-mailed assignments are not accepted. Hard copies only.

No e-mailed attachments.

Office and Office Hours: TBA

Tues. Jan. 8 - Introduction to second half of course and goals

Tues. Jan. 15 – Workshop (Materials due); **ASSIGNMENT 3 DUE**

Tues. Jan. 29 – Workshop (Materials due).

Tues. Feb. 5 - Workshop (Materials due); Instructions for Assignment #4.

Tues. Feb. 12 – Workshop (Materials due)

SPRING READING WEEK Feb. 16 - 22

Tues. Feb. 26 - Workshop (Materials due)

Tues. Mar. 5 - Workshop (Materials due); **ASSIGNMENT 4 DUE**

Tues. Mar. 12 - Workshop (Materials due)

Tues. Mar. 19 - Workshop (Materials due)

Tues. Mar. 26 - Workshop (Materials due); **FINAL PORTFOLIO DUE – Group A**

Tues. Apr. 2 - Workshop (Materials due); **FINAL PORTFOLIO DUE - Group B**

Tues. Apr. 9 - Workshop (Materials due); **FINAL PORTFOLIO DUE – Group C**

(Groups to be identified during the first weeks of class in September)

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

1. Students will learn how to write in three genres and produce samples of writing in those genres: prose fiction, poetry and drama.
2. Students will learn how to line edit their own writing and the writing of others.
3. Students will learn to stay committed to a regular writing schedule.
4. Students will create and edit a substantial body of original writing from a total of ten marked assignments.
5. Students will improve their grammar.
6. Students will build communication skills.
7. Students will develop and explore their creativity.
8. Students will acquire judgment with respect to criticism and positive feedback on creative writing.
9. Students will improve their collaboration and their group interaction skills.

2018-19 BRESCIA UNIVERSITY COLLEGE ACADEMIC POLICIES AND REGULATIONS

1. POLICY REGARDING MAKEUP EXAMS AND EXTENSIONS OF DEADLINES When a student requests academic accommodation (e.g., extension of a deadline, a makeup exam) for work representing 10% or more of the student's overall grade in the course, it is the responsibility of the student to provide acceptable documentation to support a medical or compassionate claim. All such requests for academic accommodation must be made through an Academic Advisor and include supporting documentation. Academic accommodation for illness will be granted only if the documentation indicates that the onset, duration and severity of the illness are such that the student could not reasonably be expected to complete her academic responsibilities. Minor ailments typically treated by over-the-counter medications will not normally be accommodated. Students must submit their documentation along with a request for relief specifying the nature of the

accommodation being requested no later than two business days after the date specified for resuming responsibilities. In cases where there might be an extended absence or serious issue, students should submit their documentation promptly and consult their Academic Advisor for advice during their recovery period. Whenever possible, students who require academic accommodation should provide notification and documentation in advance of due dates, examinations, etc. Appropriate academic accommodation will be determined by the Dean's Office/Academic Advisor in consultation with the student's instructor(s). Academic accommodation may include extension of deadlines, waiver of attendance requirements for classes/labs/tutorials, arranging Special Exams or Incompletes, re-weighting course requirements, or granting late withdrawals without academic penalty. Please note that personal commitments (e.g., vacation flight bookings, work schedule) which conflict with a scheduled test, exam or course requirement are not grounds for academic accommodation. A UWO Student Medical Certificate (SMC) is required if a student is seeking academic accommodation on medical grounds. This documentation should be obtained at the time of the initial consultation with the physician/nurse practitioner or walk-in clinic. A SMC can be downloaded from: http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf . The student must request documentation sufficient to demonstrate that her ability to meet academic responsibilities was seriously affected. Please note that under University Senate regulations documentation stating simply that the student "was seen for a medical reason" or "was ill" is not adequate to support a request for academic accommodation. The full policy on requesting accommodation due to illness can be viewed at:

http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=1&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page_12

2. ACADEMIC CONCERNS If you feel that you have a medical or personal challenge that is interfering with your work, contact your instructor and Academic Advisor as soon as possible. Problems may then be documented and possible arrangements to assist you can be discussed at the time of occurrence rather than on a retroactive basis. Retroactive requests for academic accommodation on medical or compassionate grounds are not normally considered. If you think that you are too far behind to catch up or that your work load is not manageable, you should consult your Academic Advisor. If you consider reducing your workload by dropping one or more courses, this must be done by the appropriate deadlines (refer to the Registrar's website, <http://brescia.uwo.ca/academics/registrar-services/> or the list of official sessional dates in the Academic Calendar, see the Sessional Dates tab at <http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/index.cfm?SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#>). You should consult with the course instructor and the Academic Advisor who

can help you consider alternatives to dropping one or more courses. Note that dropping a course may affect OSAP eligibility and/or Entrance Scholarship eligibility.

3. ABSENCES Short Absences: If you miss a class due to a minor illness or other problems, check your course outline for information regarding attendance requirements and make sure you are not missing a test or assignment. Cover any readings and arrange to borrow notes from a classmate. Contact the course instructor if you have any questions. **Extended Absences:** If you have an extended absence, you should contact the course instructor and an Academic Advisor. Your course instructor and Academic Advisor can discuss ways for you to catch up on missed work and arrange academic accommodations, if appropriate and warranted. It is important to note that the Academic Dean may refuse permission to write the final examination in a course if the student has failed to maintain satisfactory academic standing throughout the year or for too frequent absence from the class or laboratory (http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=5&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#SubHeading_68).

4. SCHOLASTIC OFFENCES Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at: http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=1&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page_20 . Students are responsible for understanding the nature of and avoiding the occurrence of plagiarism and other academic offences. Note that such offences include plagiarism, cheating on an examination, submitting false or fraudulent assignments or credentials, impersonating a candidate, or submitting for credit in any course without the knowledge and approval of the instructor to whom it is submitted, any academic work for which credit has previously been obtained or is being sought in another course in the University or elsewhere. Students are advised to consult the section on Scholastic Discipline for Undergraduate Students in the Academic Calendar. If you are in doubt about whether what you are doing is inappropriate or not, consult your instructor, the Academic Dean's Office, or the Registrar. A claim that "you didn't know it was wrong" is not accepted as an excuse. The penalties for a student guilty of a scholastic offence (including plagiarism) include refusal of a passing grade in the assignment, refusal of a passing grade in the course, suspension from the University, and expulsion from the University. **Plagiarism:** Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea or a passage from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by

using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is a major academic offence. All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com (<http://www.turnitin.com>). Computer-marked Tests/exams: Computer-marked multiple-choice tests and/or exams may be subject to submission for similarity review by software that will check for unusual coincidences in answer patterns that may indicate cheating. Software currently in use to score computer-marked multiple-choice tests and exams performs a similarity review as part of standard exam analysis.

5. PROCEDURES FOR APPEALING ACADEMIC EVALUATIONS All appeals of a grade must be directed first to the course instructor. If the student is not satisfied with the decision of the course instructor, a written appeal is to be sent to the School Chair. If the response of the Chair is considered unsatisfactory to the student, she may then submit a written appeal to the Office of the Dean. If the student is not satisfied with the decision of the Dean, she may appeal to the Senate Review Board Academic (SRBA), if there are sufficient grounds for the appeal. For information on academic appeals you can consult your Academic Advisor or see the Student Academic Appeals – Undergraduate in the Academic Calendar

http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=1&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page_14. Note that final course marks are not official until the Academic Dean has reviewed and signed the final grade report for the course. If course marks deviate from acceptable and appropriate standards, the Academic Dean may require grades to be adjusted to align them with accepted grading practices.

6. PREREQUISITES Unless you have either the prerequisites for a course or written special permission from the Dean to enroll in it, you will be removed from the course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisite(s).

7. SUPPORT Support Services The Brescia University College Registrar's website, with a link to Academic Advisors, is at <http://brescia.uwo.ca/academics/registrar->

services/ . The website for the Student Development Centre at Western is <http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/> . Mental Health and Wellness Students may experience a range of issues that can cause barriers to your learning, such as increased anxiety, feeling overwhelmed, feeling down or lost, difficulty concentrating and/or lack of motivation. Services are available to assist you with addressing these and other concerns you may be experiencing. You can learn more about mental health and wellness at Brescia at <http://brescia.uwo.ca/life/mental-health-wellness/>. Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Health and Wellness at Western, http://uwo.ca/health/mental_wellbeing/index.html, for information about how to obtain help for yourself or others. Sexual Violence All members of the Brescia University College community have a right to work and study in an environment that is free from any form of sexual violence. Brescia University College recognizes that the prevention of, and response to, Sexual Violence is of particular importance in the university environment. Sexual Violence is strictly prohibited and unacceptable and will not be tolerated. Brescia is committed to preventing Sexual Violence and creating a safe space for anyone in the Brescia community who has experienced Sexual Violence. If you or someone you know has experienced any form of Sexual Violence, you may access resources at <http://brescia.uwo.ca/life/sexual-violence/>.

Portions of this document were taken from the Academic Calendar, the Handbook of Academic and Scholarship Policy and the Academic Handbook of Senate Regulations. This document is a summary of relevant regulations and does not supersede the academic policies and regulations of the Senate of the University of Western Ontario.