

MEDAILLE COLLEGE
AGASSIZ CIRCLE
BUFFALO, NEW YORK

COURSE OUTLINE

Program: Humanities
Course Number: ENG 300
Course Title: Fiction Workshop
Number of Credits: 3
Prerequisites: ENG 200

A. Catalog Description of Course:

A course in creative writing fiction which helps the student to focus his/her creative ideas and thoughts and write short pieces of fiction with a view toward entering contests, freelancing his/her work and other areas of publication. The student through actual writing of short stories will come to a better awareness and appreciation of the short story as an art form.

B. Goals:

- * To harness and refine creative energy in self-expression.
- * To sharpen and instill creative perception of fiction as an art form.

C. Objectives:

Upon completion of this course students will be able to:

- * Distinguish good fiction from poorly written fiction.
- * Demonstrate the tools and techniques of writing fiction.
- * Effectively use the workshop to listen, critique, edit, and revise.
- * Submit fiction to be published.
- * Gain confidence in writing various types of fiction: traditional, contemporary and experimental

D. Outline of Course Content:

- * Fictional structure and types of fiction
- * The fiction writer and his techniques
- * Introduction to CAI software: Plots Unlimited

* Fiction workshops

* Publishing fiction

E. Suggested Texts:

Bauer, Marion D. For the Love of Writing: Lessons in Fiction Writing for Beginners. St. Paul, Minnesota: Inkling Publications, Inc., 1988.

Block, Lawrence. Writing the Novel: From Plot to Print. Cincinnati, Ohio: Writer's Digest Books, 1985.

Writers Market

F. Suggested Modes, Media, and Techniques of Instruction:

Demonstrations

Films

Videos

Workshops

Guest lecturers

Lecture/discussion

Small group discussion

CAI software

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G. Instructor References:

Boles, Paul D. Storycrafting. Cincinnati, Ohio: Writer's Digest Books, 1984.

Cowley, Malcolm, ed. Writers at Work: The Paris Review Interviews. New York: Viking, 1959.

Derleth, August William. Writing Fiction. Boston: The Writer Inc., 1946.

Esenwein, I. Berg. Writing the Short Story. New York: Hines, Noble, Eldridge, 1909.

Fox, Edward. How to Write Stories That Sell. Boston: The Writer Inc., 1981.

Koontz, Dean R. Writing Popular Fiction. Writers Digest, 1972.

- Maugham, William Somerset. The Art of Fiction; an Introduction to Ten Novels and Their Authors. 1st American ed. Garden City, N.Y.: Doubleday, 1955.
- Minot, Stephen. Three Genres: The Writing of Fiction, Poetry, and Drama. Englewood Cliffs, N.J.: Prentice-Hall, 1985.
- Norville, Barbara. Writing the Modern Mystery. 1st ed. Cincinnati, Ohio: Writers Digest Books, 1986.
- Polti, Georges. Thirty-Six Dramatic Situations. Boston: Writer, Inc., 1931.
- Reed, Kit. Story First: The Writer as Insider. Englewood Cliffs, N.J.: Prentice-Hall, 1982.
- Surmelian, Leon. Techniques of Fiction Writing; Measure and Madness. Doubleday, 1968.
- Uzzell, Thomas H. The Technique of the Novel; A Handbook on the Craft of the Long Narrative. New York: Citadel Press, 1959.
- Wharton, Edith. Writing of Fiction. Octagon, 1977.