

ENGL1201: Creative Writing: Introduction

Callaghan

Semester 1 - 2024



THE UNIVERSITY OF
NEWCASTLE
AUSTRALIA

The School of Humanities, Creative Industries and Social Sciences is committed to providing an inclusive environment in which all cultures are accorded respect and all students and staff are expected to act with honesty, fairness, trustworthiness and accountability in dealings with others. The School recognises and respects the unique histories and cultures of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, their unbroken relationship with the lands and the waters of Australia over millennia, and the validity of Aboriginal ways of knowing. We are dedicated to reconciliation and to offering opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to access and succeed in higher education.

OVERVIEW

Course Description	This course offers entry-level training in creative writing. Through a close reading and discussion of texts across the major literary forms, as well as through developing their own writing, students are familiarised with the techniques and strategies used by creative writers and are trained to adapt these tools to produce their own work.
Academic Progress Requirements	Nil
Contact Hours	Callaghan Seminar * Face to Face On Campus 2 hour(s) per week(s) for 12 week(s) * This contact type has a compulsory requirement.
Unit Weighting	10
Workload	Students are required to spend on average 120-140 hours of effort (contact and non-contact) including assessments per 10 unit course.

COURSE OUTLINE

CONTACTS

Course Coordinator	Callaghan A/Pr Keri Glastonbury Keri.Glastonbury@newcastle.edu.au (02) 4921 5160 Consultation: Please contact via email to arrange appointment.
Teaching Staff	Other teaching staff will be advised on the course Canvas site.
School Office	School of Humanities Creative Industries and Social Sciences Social Sciences Building Callaghan HCISS@newcastle.edu.au +61 4985 4500

SYLLABUS

Course Content	This course may include activities such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• discussion of the relationship between reading and writing• weekly writing exercises covering key craft skills such as imagery, plot and structure, place, point of view, characterisation and endings.• workshoping of creative drafts in progress
Course Learning Outcomes	On successful completion of this course, students will be able to: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Identify a range of techniques and elements of writing craft in poetry, creative nonfiction and fiction.2. Edit and refine written language in terms of grammar and sentence construction.3. Use the workshop model of critiquing to develop their own written work and that of others.4. Develop original creative works that reflect their engagement with writing craft and the work of contemporary creative writing practitioners.
Course Materials	See required texts in Schedule. Other materials may be provided on the course website.

COMPULSORY REQUIREMENTS

In order to pass this course, each student must complete ALL of the following compulsory requirements:

Contact Hour Requirements:

- Seminar Attend 80% of sessions

SCHEDULE

Week	Week Begins	Topic	Readings	Assessment Due
1	26 Feb	Introduction: Reading Into Writing	Seamus Heaney, 'Digging' Marguerite Duras, 'October 1982'	
2	4 Mar	Poetry: The essential Image	Ezra Pound, 'In a Station of the Metro' Matsuo Basho, 'Bitter-tasting ice' Japanese Death Poems (selection)	
3	11 Mar	The Short Story: Imagery	Raymond Carver, 'Fat'	

		and change	Marjorie Barnard, 'The Persimmon Tree'	
4	18 Mar	The short story: plot	Dino Buzzati, 'Seven Floors' Banana Yoshimoto 'Bee Honey'	Quiz 1 (covering readings from weeks 3-4) Sunday 24 th March
5	25 Mar	Poetry: voice	Ellen Van Neerven, 'Chips' James Wright, 'Lying in a Hammock at William Duffy's Farm' Sylvia Plath, 'Tulips'	
6	1 Apr	The short story: structure	Dan Hogan, 'Chondrilla' SJ Norman, 'Stepmother'	Quiz 2 (covering readings from weeks 5-6) Sunday 7 th April
7	8 Apr	The personal essay: The keyhole of personal experience	George Orwell, 'Shooting an Elephant' Vanessa Berry, 'Mink Coat'	Short Creative Assignment Due Friday 12th April
Mid-Semester Recess				
Mid-Semester Recess				
8	29 Apr	The short story: place and environment	Richard Ford, 'Communist' Tara June Winch, 'It's Difficult to Explain'	Quiz 3 (covering readings from weeks 7-8) Sunday 5 th May
9	6 May	The short story: point of view	Kristen Roupenian, 'Cat Person' Miranda July, 'The Swim Team'	
10	13 May	Poetry: structure	Gerald Manley Hopkins, 'Carrion Comfort' Jorie Graham, 'Salmon' Diane Seuss, 'Intimacy unhinged, unpaddocked me'	Quiz 4 (covering readings from weeks 9-10) Sunday 19 th May
11	20 May	The short story: characterisation	John Cheever, 'The Five Forty-Eight' Josephine Rowe, 'Brisbane'	
12	27 May	The short story: endings	Tobias Wolff, 'Hunters in the Snow' Junot Diaz, 'Drown'	Quiz 5 (covering readings from weeks 11-12) Sunday 2 nd June
13	3 Jun			Creative Portfolio due: Friday 7th June
Examination Period				
Examination Period				

ASSESSMENTS

This course has 3 assessments. Each assessment is described in more detail in the sections below.

	Assessment Name	Due Date	Involvement	Weighting	Learning Outcomes
1	Short Creative	Friday 12th April 11.59pm	Individual	30%	2, 3, 4
2	Creative Portfolio	Friday 7th June 11.59pm	Individual	50%	2, 3, 4
3	Multiple choice quizzes	Quiz 1: Sunday 24th March 11.59pm Quiz 2: Sunday 7th April 11.59pm Quiz 3: Sunday 5th May 11.59pm Quiz 4: Sunday 19th May 11.59pm Quiz 5: Sunday 2nd June 11.59pm	Individual	20%	1

Late Submissions

The mark for an assessment item submitted after the designated time on the due date, without an approved extension of time, will be reduced by 10% of the possible maximum mark for that assessment item for each day or part day that the assessment item is late. Note: this applies equally to week and weekend days.

Assessment 1 - Short Creative

Assessment Type	Professional Task
Purpose	Short creative writing task
Description	Your short creative task should be a self-contained piece that answers one of the creative prompts from any week and be submitted in turn-it-in. You may write either prose or the page (not word) equivalent in poetry. It may assist you with this assessment if you volunteer to workshop this exercise in-class, however, it is not essential that you submit a piece that has been previously workshopped in class. The prose and poetry rubric for creative writing is available on Canvas and should be consulted before completing this assignment.
Weighting	30%
Length	500 words (or 2 pages of poetry)
Due Date	Friday 12th April 11.59pm
Submission Method	Online
Assessment Criteria	See rubric on the course website
Return Method	Online
Feedback Provided	Online - Friday 3rd May.

Assessment 2 - Creative Portfolio

Assessment Type	Professional Task
Purpose	Extended creative writing task
Description	The portfolio may consist of a single sustained work or multiple self-contained works of prose and/or poetry. (Remember—particularly if you decide to submit both poetry and prose in your portfolio—that a one page poem is equivalent to a one page piece of prose.) While this assignment does not have to answer a creative prompt, it must have been written while you were enrolled in ENGL1201 and cannot have been submitted anywhere else for an assignment—although you may have workshopped part of it in class. Remember too, that the portfolio may not be found passable if it shows little or no engagement with the writing techniques studied in the course. The prose and poetry rubric for creative writing is available on Canvas and should be consulted before completing this assignment.
Weighting	50%
Length	2,000 words (or 8 pages of poetry)
Due Date	Friday 7th June 11.59pm
Submission Method	Online
Assessment Criteria	See rubric on the course website
Return Method	Online
Feedback Provided	Online - Friday 28th June

Assessment 3 - Multiple choice quizzes

Assessment Type	Quiz
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Purpose	Test and consolidate knowledge.
Description	These five multiple choice quizzes are to be completed via the course website on Canvas by no later than the due date.
Weighting	20%
Length	NA
Due Date	Quiz 1: Sunday 24th March 11.59pm Quiz 2: Sunday 7th April 11.59pm Quiz 3: Sunday 5th May 11.59pm Quiz 4: Sunday 19th May 11.59pm Quiz 5: Sunday 2nd June 11.59pm
Submission Method	Online
Assessment Criteria	Multiple choice quizzes marked online
Return Method	Online
Feedback Provided	Online

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Grading Scheme

This course is graded as follows:

Range of Marks	Grade	Description
85-100	High Distinction (HD)	Outstanding standard indicating comprehensive knowledge and understanding of the relevant materials; demonstration of an outstanding level of academic achievement; mastery of skills*; and achievement of all assessment objectives.
75-84	Distinction (D)	Excellent standard indicating a very high level of knowledge and understanding of the relevant materials; demonstration of a very high level of academic ability; sound development of skills*; and achievement of all assessment objectives.
65-74	Credit (C)	Good standard indicating a high level of knowledge and understanding of the relevant materials; demonstration of a high level of academic achievement; reasonable development of skills*; and achievement of all learning outcomes.
50-64	Pass (P)	Satisfactory standard indicating an adequate knowledge and understanding of the relevant materials; demonstration of an adequate level of academic achievement; satisfactory development of skills*; and achievement of all learning outcomes.
0-49	Fail (FF)	Failure to satisfactorily achieve learning outcomes. If all compulsory course components are not completed the mark will be zero. A fail grade may also be awarded following disciplinary action.

*Skills are those identified for the purposes of assessment task(s).

Attendance

Attendance/participation will be recorded in the following components:

- Seminar (Method of recording: In class)

Communication Methods

Communication methods used in this course include:

- Canvas Course Site: Students will receive communications via the posting of content or announcements on the Canvas course site.
- Face to Face: Communication will be provided via face to face meetings or supervision.

Course Evaluation

Each year feedback is sought from students and other stakeholders about the courses offered in the University for the purposes of identifying areas of excellence and potential improvement.

As a result of student feedback, the following changes have been made to this offering of the course:

- Some new course readings have been introduced this year to update and refresh the course.

Oral Interviews (Vivas) As part of the evaluation process of any assessment item in this course an oral examination (viva) may be conducted. The purpose of the oral examination is to verify the authorship of the material submitted in response to the assessment task. The oral examination will be conducted in accordance with the principles set out in the [Oral Examination \(viva\) Procedure](#). In cases where the oral examination reveals the assessment item may not be the student's own work the case will be dealt with under the [Student Conduct Rule](#).

Academic Misconduct All students are required to meet the academic integrity standards of the University. These standards reinforce the importance of integrity and honesty in an academic environment. Academic Integrity policies apply to all students of the University in all modes of study and in all locations. For the Student Academic Integrity Policy, refer to <https://policies.newcastle.edu.au/document/view-current.php?id=35>.

Adverse Circumstances The University acknowledges the right of students to seek consideration for the impact of allowable adverse circumstances that may affect their performance in assessment item(s). Applications for special consideration due to adverse circumstances will be made using the online Adverse Circumstances system where:

1. the assessment item is a major assessment item; or
2. the assessment item is a minor assessment item and the Course Co-ordinator has specified in the Course Outline that students may apply the online Adverse Circumstances system;
3. you are requesting a change of placement; or
4. the course has a compulsory attendance requirement.

Before applying you must refer to the Adverse Circumstance Affecting Assessment Items Procedure available at:

<https://policies.newcastle.edu.au/document/view-current.php?id=236>

Important Policy Information The Help button in the Canvas Navigation menu contains helpful information for using the Learning Management System. Students should familiarise themselves with the policies and procedures at <https://www.newcastle.edu.au/current-students/respect-at-uni/policies-and-procedures> that support a safe and respectful environment at the University.

This course outline was approved by the Head of School. No alteration of this course outline is permitted without Head of School approval. If a change is approved, students will be notified and an amended course outline will be provided in the same manner as the original.

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