

Liverpool John Moores University

Title: FOUNDATION
Status: Definitive
Code: **7005WRIT** (110959)
Version Start Date: 01-08-2011

Owning School/Faculty: Liverpool Screen School
Teaching School/Faculty: Liverpool Screen School

Team	Leader
James Friel	Y

Academic Level: FHEQ7
Credit Value: 20.00
Total Delivered Hours: 39.00
Total Learning Hours: 200
Private Study: 161

Delivery Options

Course typically offered: Semester 1

Component	Contact Hours
Lecture	24.000
Seminar	12.000
Tutorial	3.000

Grading Basis: 40 %

Assessment Details

Category	Short Description	Description	Weighting (%)	Exam Duration
Essay	AS1	1 x 3000 word essay	70.0	
Essay	AS2	1 x original writing and short critical commentary.	30.0	

Aims

- 1) to introduce and practice creative, formal, and technical skills appropriate to Writing at Masters level, in particular the techniques of contemporary writers and to relate that to their own writing.
- 2) to emphasise the importance of presenting work to professional standards and accuracy and editing to the writing process.
- 3) to identify and develop an original and creative voice as writers.

4) to initiate a comprehensive understanding of techniques applicable to research that enriches and advances their work.

5) to acquire a practical and analytical knowledge of writerly techniques sufficient to inform complex, creative composition and problem solving.

6) to demonstrate a critical awareness of critical theory and writerly commentary, especially that which shapes or generates current writing.

Learning Outcomes

After completing the module the student should be able to:

- 1 Articulate and discuss his/her creative writing to contemporary published texts and their main traditions.
- 2 Engage critically in close textual analysis.
- 3 Illustrate in their written work an enhanced understanding of the writing process.
- 4 Produce a piece of writing that shows an awareness of writerly techniques in one genre.

Learning Outcomes of Assessments

The assessment item list is assessed via the learning outcomes listed:

Essay 3,000 word	1	2	3
Essay - Critical commentary	3	4	

Outline Syllabus

During the module students will:

- 1) Consider published/performed work in a range of forms (poetry, prose fiction, drama and film), but with specific reference to set texts.
2. Analyse aspects of technique such as narrative, characterisation, structure, genre, style and point of view.
3. Focus on key aspect of the writing process such as keeping a writer's journal, generating new material and drafting.
4. Consider current modes such as metafiction, magic realism, the historical novel, and debates such as the tension between free verse and traditional poetic structure.
5. Discuss the work of theorists who have helped shaped our understanding of modern writing: e.g. Roland Barthes and Victor Shklovsky, as well as those practitioners who have meditated on the practice of writing such as John Gardner, Henry James, Eudora Welty, Seamus Heaney, David Mamet and others.
6. Be introduced to the experience of a post-graduate writers' workshop.
7. Continue writing.
8. Start to contextualize their own writing in relation to tradition and genre.

Learning Activities

Aims and outcomes are realised through lectures, workshops, tutorials, library visits,

the residences and visits from established writers and producers and expert tutors; wider reading and the habit of writing regularly and independently.

References

Course Material	Book
Author	Bell, J. ed.
Publishing Year	2001
Title	The Creative Writing Coursebook
Subtitle	Forty Authors Share Advice and Exercises for Fiction and Poetry
Edition	
Publisher	Pan
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Gardner, J.
Publishing Year	1991
Title	The Art of Fiction
Subtitle	
Edition	
Publisher	Vintage Books
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Newman, J,
Publishing Year	2000
Title	The Writer's Workbook
Subtitle	
Edition	
Publisher	London, Arnold
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Nokakovich, J.
Publishing Year	1998
Title	Fiction Writer's Workshop
Subtitle	Writer's Digest Book
Edition	
Publisher	New Edition
ISBN	10-009945678

Course Material	Book
Author	Padel, R.
Publishing Year	2004

Title	52 Ways of Looking at a Poem
Subtitle	
Edition	
Publisher	Vintage
ISBN	1852242043

Course Material	Book
Author	Prose, F.
Publishing Year	2007
Title	Reading Like a Writer
Subtitle	
Edition	
Publisher	Harper Perennial
ISBN	0060777052

Course Material	Book
Author	Wainwright, J.
Publishing Year	2004
Title	Poetry
Subtitle	The Basics
Edition	
Publisher	Routledge
ISBN	0415287642

Course Material	Book
Author	Wood, J.
Publishing Year	2007
Title	How Fiction Works
Subtitle	
Edition	
Publisher	Vintage
ISBN	1845950933

Course Material	Book
Author	Skip Press
Publishing Year	2000
Title	The Complete Idiot's Guide to Screenwriting
Subtitle	
Edition	
Publisher	Alpha books
ISBN	0028639448

Notes

As the programme's first module, foundation is designed to introduce students to reading, writing, theory and practice at postgraduate level. There will normally be a

residential weekend near the beginning of the semester. As students will be encouraged to keep writing throughout the programme, several sessions of part-sessions will focus on their own work. On these evenings the cohort is likely to be divided into two tutor-led workshop groups of twelve students each. Overall, the intention is to focus on relevant elements of form and theory whilst expecting the students to continue their own writing, thus allowing the module to be practitioner orientated.

In addition, students are encouraged to read six or seven chosen books from the recent year in publishing. These books will change from intake to intake, and information concerning them will be given in a dedicated handbook for those accepted on the course.