

Liverpool John Moores University

Title: PORTFOLIO & CRITICAL COMMENTARY
Status: Definitive
Code: **7009WRIT** (110963)
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: 60.00
Total Delivered Hours: 36.00
Total Learning Hours: 600
Private Study: 564

Delivery Options

Course typically offered: Summer

Component	Contact Hours
Tutorial	36.000

Grading Basis: 40 %

Assessment Details

Category	Short Description	Description	Weighting (%)	Exam Duration
Portfolio	AS1	portfolio and critical commentary.	100.0	

Aims

1. To show creative, formal, and technical skills appropriate to Writing at Masters level.
2. To format and present work to professional standards, including the creation and maintenance of their own web sites.
3. To express an original and creative voice as writers.
4. To demonstrate a comprehensive understanding of techniques applicable to research that enriches and advances their work.
5. To reveal a practical and analytical knowledge of writerly techniques sufficient to inform complex creative composition and problem solving.

6. *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 write a 12,000 word portfolio, having organised their time and work independently toward the completion of a substantial project, and so demonstrating initiative and personal responsibility.
- 2 present their work to a professional standard.
- 3 place their work in the context of other writers, earlier and/or contemporary.
- 4 demonstrate self-direction and originality in tackling and solving problems, and act autonomously in planning and implementing tasks at a professional or equivalent level
- 5 evaluate creatively the extent to which their work has fulfilled its aims, and research has enabled and informed its production.

Learning Outcomes of Assessments

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

Portfolio & crit. commentary	1	2	3	4	5
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Outline Syllabus

1. *The portfolio will consist of a substantial piece of creative work, to be negotiated with the supervising tutor (e.g. about 12,000 words of prose, or approximately 600-700 lines of poetry, or a two-hour stage/radio play(s) or a 90-120 minute screenplay). It will be written over the Summer and submitted at the end of August.*
2. *The Portfolio will consist of either a single piece or a collection of pieces of original writing. The writing must make up a coherent whole, or constitute an integrated collection of parts to the satisfaction of the examiners. Writing submitted as course work during the first four semesters may not count towards the portfolio.*
3. *However, if a course member has written the introductory part of a longer piece (e.g. the first two chapters of a novella) as coursework submissions, these may be included to contextualise the portfolio, but will not count towards its total length.*
4. *The portfolio will be accompanied by a 3,000 word Critical Commentary, in which the student is invited to contextualise his/her creative work, reflect on his or her creative processes, cite important influences, describe challenges and problem solving, and reflect on the success or otherwise of his/her creative strategies.*

Learning Activities

Aims and outcomes are realised mainly through tutorials, wider reading and the habit

of writing regularly and independently, although the residences provides opportunities for lectures and seminars and visits from established writers and producers and expert tutors;

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	0333782259

Course Material	Book
Author	Gardner, J.
Publishing Year	1991
Title	The Art of Fiction
Subtitle	
Edition	
Publisher	Vintage Books
ISBN	0679734031

Course Material	Book
Author	Newman, J. et al.
Publishing Year	2003
Title	The Writer's Workbook
Subtitle	
Edition	
Publisher	Hodder Arnold
ISBN	0340809655

Course Material	Book
Author	Novakovich, J.
Publishing Year	1998
Title	Fiction Writer's Workshop
Subtitle	Writer's Digest Book, New Editon
Edition	
Publisher	
ISBN	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	The Complete Idiot's Guide to Screenwriting
Publishing Year	2000
Title	(The Complete Idiot's Guide)
Subtitle	
Edition	
Publisher	Skip Press / Alpha Books
ISBN	

Notes

As the culminating component of the MA in Writing, this 60-credit Portfolio should

demonstrate the student's ability to write at an advanced level, present his/her work professionally and show a capacity to contextualise and evaluate it in the accompanying Critical Commentary.