

Module Code	HPEN5037
Title	Novel writing
Date	13/02/2023
Level	5
Credits	20
Pre-Requisites	None

AIM(S)

- To develop students' awareness and appreciation of the characteristics of a variety of different approaches to writing long-form fiction, through close reading, analysis and reflective creative practice.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon the successful completion of this module, the student should be able to:

- demonstrate, in both creative and evaluative writing, knowledge and understanding of the characteristics and conventions of a variety of different approaches to novel writing;
- demonstrate practical competence in the application of creative writing skills and techniques for crafting long-form fiction;
- demonstrate an ability to reflect critically on the nature of a variety of different approaches the writing longer fiction, through discussion of both published texts, their own work, and that of their peers;
- demonstrate an ability to improve their writing craft through a process of reflection, evaluation, and redrafting and to articulate their awareness of this process in reflective prose.

INDICATIVE CONTENT

The focus of the module will be on exploring approaches to novel writing, through close reading and analysis of selected classical, modern and contemporary novels, and practical writing activities designed to facilitate an understanding of the possibilities of the novel form.

A typical session will concentrate on the features of a specific novel extract and will be divided roughly into three parts:

- an introduction to the topic by the tutor, including theoretical frameworks such as Booker's 'seven basic plots';
- reading, analysis and discussion of texts to explore novel writing through elements such as openings, a sense of place, narrative time, structure, point of view, language and dialogue;
- writing activities designed to facilitate creative experimentation whilst embedding an understanding of the possibilities of the novel form.

Through a process of peer reviewing and constructive criticism within the circle of the writer's workshop, students will continue developing some of these pieces over the course of the module in order to build up a portfolio of work for assessment. In the process, they will hone their reflective practice skills.

Study Time Allocation

The study time for the module is divided as follows:

Activity type	Hours	Percentage
Scheduled learning	36	18%
Independent learning	164	82%
Placement learning		
TOTAL	200	100%

ASSESSMENT

Assessment Component 1

☐ Written exam ☒ Coursework ☐ Practical

Mode of assessment	Volume	Weighting
Portfolio	Maximum 4 items (Equivalent to 4,000 words)	75%

Assessment Component 2

☐ Written exam ☒ Coursework ☐ Practical

Mode of assessment	Volume	Weighting
Reflective Essay	Equivalent to 1,000 words	25%

Assessment Summary

Activity type	Percentage
Written exam	
Coursework	100%
Practical	
TOTAL	100%

INDICATIVE READING LIST

Module Code	HPEN5037	
Module Title	Novel writing	
Classification	Reading List entry	Electronic*
Essential	Booker, Christopher, <i>The Seven Basic Plots : Why We Tell Stories</i> (London: Continuum, 2004)	☐
Essential	Storr, Will, <i>The Science of Storytelling</i> (London: William Collins, 2019)	☒
Further	Burroway, Janet, <i>Writing Fiction: A Guide to Narrative Craft</i> (New York: Addison Wesley, Longman, 2000)	☐
Further	King, Stephen, <i>On Writing: a Memoir of the Craft</i> (London: Hodder and Stoughton, 2001)	☐
Further	Earnshaw, Steven, <i>The Handbook of Creative Writing</i> , ed. By Steven Earnshaw, Second edition. (Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press, 2014)	☒
Further	Forster, E.M. <i>Aspects of the Novel</i> (London: Penguin, 1990)	☐
Further	Candy, Linda, <i>The Creative Reflective Practitioner : Research Through Making and Practice</i> (Abingdon: Routledge, 2020)	☒
Further	Calvino, Italo, <i>If On A Winter's Night A Traveller</i> (London: Vintage, 2002)	☐
Further	James, Henry, <i>The Turn of the Screw</i> , 2 nd ed. (Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan, 2004)	☐
Further	Elliott, George, <i>Middlemarch</i> (London: Penguin, 2003)	☐
Further	Shriver, Lionel, <i>We Need To Talk About Kevin</i> (Berkeley: Counterpoint, 2003)	☐
Further	Niffenegger, Audrey, <i>The Time Traveler's Wife</i> (New York: Random House, 2004)	☐
Further	Shafak, Elif, <i>The Island of Missing Trees</i> (London: Bloomsbury, 2001)	☐
Further	Evaristo, Bernardine, <i>Girl, Woman, Other</i> (London: Hamish Hamilton, 2019)	☐
Further	Morrison, Toni, <i>Beloved</i> (London: Vintage, 1997)	☐
Further	Tolstoy, Leo, trans. by Helen Edmundson, <i>Anna Karenina</i> (London: Nick Hern Books, 1994)	☐
Further	Wolf, Virginia, <i>Mrs Dalloway</i> (London: Chatto & Windus, 1968)	☐