

Module Code	HPEN5034
Title	Glancingly from the side: Writing the Short story
Date	13/02/2023
Level	5
Credits	20
Pre-Requisites	None

AIM(S)

- Through creative and reflective practice, to explore the short story as a form.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

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

- demonstrate detailed knowledge and critical understanding of the history, nature and creative possibilities of the short story form;
- demonstrate knowledge and critical understanding of narrative, form, and genre;
- demonstrate appropriate craftsmanship, originality and imagination in writing their own short fiction.

INDICATIVE CONTENT

The focus of the module will be on exploring the short story form, through close reading and analysis of selected classical, modern and contemporary short stories, and practical writing activities designed to facilitate an understanding of the possibilities of short fiction. The module will also address the short story market in terms of competitions, paid opportunities and the value of short-story writing for emerging writers.

A typical session will concentrate on the features of a specific story or a specific genre of short fiction (e.g. flash fiction) and will be divided roughly into three parts:

- an introduction to the topic by the tutor, including theoretical frameworks such as Freytag's pyramid and / or Hemingway's iceberg model;
- reading, analysis and discussion of texts to explore short fiction through elements such as length, structure, point of view, narrative voice, language and dialogue;
- writing activities designed to facilitate creative experimentation whilst embedding an understanding of the possibilities of short form fiction.

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.

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 6 items (to the equivalent of 5000 words)	100%

Assessment Summary

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

INDICATIVE READING LIST

Module Code	HPEN5034	
Module Title	Glancingly from the side: Writing the Short story	
Classification	Reading List entry	Electronic*
Essential	Royle, N. (Ed.) <i>Best British Short Stories 2021</i> (Cromer: Salt, 2022)	☐
Essential	Smith, D., <i>Story : the Library of Wales Short Story Anthology</i> . 2 vols. Cardigan: Parthian, 2013.	☐

Essential	Ngozi Adichie, C. <i>The Thing Around Your Neck</i> (London: Fourth Estate, 2009)	☐
Essential	Hughes, L., <i>The Ways of White Folks</i> (New York: Vintage Classics, 1990)	☐
Further	Chekhov, A. and David. Magarshack, <i>Lady with Lapdog and Other Stories</i> (Harmondsworth: Penguin Books, 1964)	☐
Further	Thomas, J. and Robert Shapard (Eds.) <i>Flash Fiction International – Very Short Stories from Around the World</i> (New York: W. W. Norton & Company, 2015)	☐
Further	Goyet, F., <i>The Classic Short Story, 1870-1925 : Theory of a Genre</i> (Cambridge: Open Book Publishers, 2014)	☒
Further	Cox, A., <i>Writing Short Stories</i> (London: Routledge, 2005)	☐
Further	Reid, I., <i>Short Story</i> (London: Routledge, 1994)	☐
Further	Shaw, V., <i>The Short Story : a Critical Introduction</i> (London: Longman, 1983)	☐