

INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE OF
MODERN LETTERS
Te Pūtahi Tuhi Auaha o te Ao

CREW 258 THE IOWA WORKSHOP (PROSE)
Trimester 3 2010
6 January 2011 to 18 February 2011

Staff

Workshop coordinator	Thomas Fox Parry
Room	404
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Office hours	Tuesdays and Thursdays
Administrator	Monday-Friday

Class Times

The first workshop will take place on Thursday 6 January 2011 at 10am-1pm, the second on Friday 7 January at the same time. Thereafter workshops will take place from 10am - 1pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays in the workshop room (Room 102) International Institute of Modern Letters, 16 Waiteata Road.
Any additional course information will be made available in class.

Withdrawal dates

Information on withdrawals and refunds may be found at
<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/admisenrol/payments/withdrawalsrefunds.aspx> .

Aims and Content

CREW 258 gives recognition to creative work in fiction. By the end of the workshop each member of the course should have further developed

- their skill as a writer of fiction
- their ability to read fiction *as a writer*

In this course, we will help each other in striving for the most courageous and sensitive art possible. We will write short stories, or longer works. We will craft thoughtful, productive responses to each other's works. We will study stories by great writers, often line by line, word by word, in order to learn how they achieved the courage and tenderness their fiction embodies.

Each student will be workshopped twice. Our goal in workshop is not to measure our fellow student's work to an established aesthetic. Our goal is to help that work become as true to itself as possible. When being workshopped, the student's job to remain both open and discerning to the discussion and written feedback he or she receives. The student being workshopped will also meet with the instructor afterward. When workshopping another's work, it's our job to actively participate in the discussion and provide a letter of response. The letter must be at least one page, single

spaced, and printed in two copies, one for the student and for the instructor. The tone of our letters will be good hearted yet tough.

Each class will include a discussion of an established writer's work. Our goal is not the development of literary theory. Our goal is the appreciable improvement of our own writing, to learn what is possible, to find out *how it's done*.

Write bravely.

Workload

It is hard to assess the workload for this course. CREW 258 is formally a 20-point undergraduate course, but many students tend to treat it as a full-time undertaking. You should certainly expect to be busy. Plan on spending about 200 hours across the trimester, including workshop hours and final folio preparation.

Course Materials

The text is a course reader, in addition to work produced by your classmates throughout the trimester. This is available from the top floor of Vicbooks in the Student Union Building, Kelburn Campus.

You can order your student notes online at www.vicbooks.co.nz or email an order or enquiry to enquiries@vicbooks.co.nz. You can arrange for your student notes to be couriered to you. Opening hours are 8am-6pm, Monday-Friday during term, closing at 5pm during the holidays. The telephone contact is 463 5515.

Photocopying will be an additional expense as you will need to bring **thirteen** copies of your work with you to the workshop, **twice** during the trimester.

Assessment

Assessment is based on the portfolio you submit at the end of the course, as well as satisfactorily meeting the two previous deadlines for turning in work. I will also take into account my impression of your overall participation during the trimester, in which your response letters and your participation in discussion of your classmates' work are of paramount importance.

Two typewritten or printed copies of your folio must be submitted by **Friday 18 February 2011**.

Two examiners (the workshop teacher and one external examiner) will read each folio. After assessment is completed, one copy of your folio will be returned to you, along with the written reports of the two readers.

Note CREW 258 is assessed on a pass/fail basis only. If you pass the course, you will receive Grade H (Ungraded Pass).

The Folio

In CREW 258 folios should be between 35 and 70 pages in length. Whether the folio consists of a long story, two or more short stories, or the beginning of a longer work is at the discretion of the student.

Mandatory Course Requirements

Attendance and participation are mandatory. If you miss a class due to extenuating circumstances, you must email your response letters to both the students being workshopped and the instructor, as well as a response to the published work we have read for that class. If you are sick on one of your assigned days to turn in work and cannot attend, you must find a way to get your work to me by the beginning of class time. As a last resort, email it to thomasfoxparry@gmail.com. Missing more than one class will jeopardize the likelihood of your passing the class.

Class Representative

A class representative will be elected in the first class, and that person's name and contact details will be available to VUWSA, the Course Coordinator and the class. The class representative provides a communication channel to liaise with the Course Coordinator on behalf of students.

GENERAL UNIVERSITY STATUTES AND POLICIES

Students should familiarise themselves with the University's policies and statutes, particularly the Assessment Statute, the Personal Courses of Study Statute, the Statute on Student Conduct and any statutes relating to the particular qualifications being studied; see the *Victoria University Calendar* or go to the Academic Policy and Student Policy sections on:

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/policy>

The AVC(Academic) website also provides information for students in a number of areas including Academic Grievances, Student and Staff conduct, Meeting the needs of students with impairments, and student support/VUWSA student advocates. This website can be accessed at:

http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about_victoria/avcacademic/Publications.aspx

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY AND PLAGIARISM

Academic integrity means that university staff and students, in their teaching and learning are expected to treat others honestly, fairly and with respect at all times. It is not acceptable to mistreat academic, intellectual or creative work that has been done by other people by representing it as your own original work.

Academic integrity is important because it is the core value on which the University's learning, teaching and research activities are based. Victoria University's reputation for academic integrity adds value to your qualification.

The University defines plagiarism as presenting someone else's work as if it were your own, whether you mean to or not. 'Someone else's work' means anything that is

not your own idea. Even if it is presented in your own style, you must acknowledge your sources fully and appropriately. This includes:

- Material from books, journals or any other printed source
- The work of other students or staff
- Information from the internet
- Software programs and other electronic material
- Designs and ideas
- The organisation or structuring of any such material

Find out more about plagiarism, how to avoid it and penalties, on the University's website:

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/plagiarism.aspx>

COURSE SCHEDULE

Thurs Jan 6:	Introductions, Etgar Keret's <i>Your Man</i> , Workshop order decided
Fri Jan 7:	Isaac Bashevis Singer's <i>Gimpel the Fool</i> , Workshop 1
Tues Jan 11:	Workshop 2, Workshop 3, Jose Luis Borges' <i>The Aleph</i>
Thurs Jan 13:	Workshop 4, Workshop 5, Workshop 6
Tues Jan 18:	Workshop 7, Workshop 8, Alice Munro's <i>The Bear Came Over the Mountain</i>
Thurs Jan 20:	Alice Munro's <i>The Bear Came Over the Mountain</i> , Workshop 9, Workshop 10
Tues Jan 25:	Workshop 11, Workshop 12, Workshop 13
Thurs Jan 27:	Workshop 14, Workshop 15, Denis Johnson's <i>Two Men</i>
Tues Feb 1:	Workshop 16, Workshop 17, Workshop 18
Thurs Feb 3:	Workshop 19, Workshop 20, Roberto Bolano's <i>Mauricio</i> ("The Eye") <i>Silva</i>
Tues Feb 8:	Workshop 21, Workshop 22, Workshop 23
Thurs Feb 10:	Workshop 24, Workshop 25, John Cheever's <i>The Death of Justina</i>
Fri Feb 18:	Portfolios due