

VICTORIA UNIVERSITY OF WELLINGTON
Te Whare Wānanga o te Ūpoko o te Ika a Māui



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

CREATIVE WRITING PROGRAMME

CREW 257 CREATIVE NON-FICTION WORKSHOP
Trimester 1 2012
5 March to 4 July 2012

Staff

Course coordinator: Harry Ricketts
Location: 16 Waiteata Road (c/- Room 402) OR Room VZ 906
Tel: On class days, messages may be left for Harry at the IIML,
Ph: 463 6854
E-mail: harry.ricketts@vuw.ac.nz

There will also be visits from writers, editors and other bookworld professionals.

Trimester Dates

Teaching dates: 5 March to 8 June 2012
Mid-trimester break: 6-22 April 2012
Study week: 11-15 June 2012
Assessment period: 15 June to 4 July 2012

Withdrawal dates

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

Class Times and location

Workshops take place 9.30am–12.30pm on Fridays at the International Institute of Modern Letters, 16 Wai-te-ata Road, in the workshop room (Room 102).

Course delivery

The content of CREW 257 will be delivered through the weekly workshops as well as the writing exercises, written assessments of others' work and their own reading and writing.

Communication of additional information

Additional information or information on changes will be conveyed to students either by email to all class members or will be made available in class.

Course prescription

A workshop course in writing creative nonfiction (e.g. memoirs, travel writing) which also involves representative reading in the genre.

Aims, Objectives and Content

CREW 257 gives recognition to creative work in creative non-fiction writing, including autobiography, memoir, short life, personal essay, and travel writing. By the end of the workshops each member of the course should have developed:

- their individual achievement and potential as a writer of creative non-fiction
- their understanding of craft elements in creative non-fiction writing
- their skills as a reader (as well as writer) of creative non-fiction

These goals are achieved through

- regular writing exercises (weekly during the first half of the course)
- workshop presentation and discussion of written work
- production of written assessments of others' work
- consistent, steady work towards the workshop's assessment folio

Exercises will explore particular subject and craft aspects of non-fiction writing, but will also try to develop individual voice and range.

In addition, by the end of the course, students should have acquired some understanding of the New Zealand literary marketplace – the nature of local publishing, the various media outlets for writers, literary magazines, agents, and so on.

Course Materials

There is one set text for this course, a Course Reader (Student Notes), which includes a range of examples of creative non-fiction writing from here and overseas. Otherwise our course texts will be produced, week by week, by members of the workshop group.

All undergraduate textbooks and student notes will be sold from the Memorial Theatre foyer from 13 February to 16 March 2012, while postgraduate textbooks and student notes will be available from the top floor of vicbooks in the Student Union Building, Kelburn Campus. After week two of the trimester all undergraduate textbooks and student notes will be sold from vicbooks on Level 4 of the Student Union Building.

Customers can order textbooks and student notes online at www.vicbooks.co.nz or can email an order or enquiry to enquiries@vicbooks.co.nz. Books can be couriered to customers or they can be picked up from nominated collection points at each campus. Customers will be contacted when they are available.

Opening hours are 8.00 am – 6.00 pm, Monday – Friday during term time (closing at 5.00 pm in the holidays). Phone: 463 5515.

Note This means that photocopying will be an additional expense for you. You will need to bring **thirteen** copies of each piece of work to workshop meetings (this includes a copy for yourself).

Assessment

Assessment in CREW 257 is based on the portfolio you submit at the end of the course. Two typewritten or printed copies of your folio must be submitted by Friday 22 June 2012. Two examiners (the workshop teacher and one external assessor) 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 257 is assessed on a pass/fail basis only. If you pass the course, you will receive Grade H (Ungraded Pass).

The Folio

In CREW 257 folios should be 6,000 - 12,000 words and will normally consist of **three** pieces of creative non-fiction plus a short introduction. **One** of your pieces should be in **two** versions: an early draft and the finished text.

Mandatory Course Requirements

In CREW 257, you must attend **all** workshops and complete **all** the prescribed exercise work and commentary writing. If you do not meet these requirements, your folio will not be assessed, and you will automatically fail the course.

Workload

It is hard to assess the workload for this course. CREW 257 is formally a 20 point undergraduate course, but many students tend to treat it as a fulltime undertaking. You should

certainly expect to be busy. Fulltime undergraduates should expect to spend about 200 hours across the course (this figure includes workshop hours).

Workshops

The first workshop is on Friday 9 March 2012.

At workshops you present weekly exercise work for group discussion and (in at least one session) one of the pieces from your folio work-in-progress. You will also be asked to produce written commentaries on work-in-progress presented by other members of the class.

Towards the end of the workshop programme, each student will have an individual conference with the workshop convenor to discuss the contents and format of their final folio.

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.

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>

WHERE TO FIND MORE DETAILED INFORMATION

Find key dates, explanations of grades and other useful information at www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study. Find out how academic progress is monitored and how enrolment can be restricted at www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/academic-progress. Most statutes and policies are available at www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/policy, except qualification statutes, which are available via the *Calendar* webpage at www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/calendar.aspx (See Section C).

Other useful information for students may be found at the website of the Assistant Vice-Chancellor (Academic), at www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about_victoria/avcademic.

Workshop Timetable

Our first six meetings will focus on discussion of weekly exercise work. From we will focus on folio work.

Friday	9 March	Introductory
Friday	16 March	Workshop Exercise 1
Friday	23 March	Workshop Exercise 2
Friday	30 March	Workshop Exercise 3
Friday	6 April **	Workshop Exercise 4

Mid trimester break: no workshops Friday 6, 13 and 20 April

Friday	27 April	Workshop Exercise 5
Friday	4 May	1 st Folio workshop
Friday	11 May	2 nd Folio workshop
Friday	18 May	3 rd Folio Workshop
Friday	25 May	4 th Folio Workshop
Friday	1 June	5 th Folio Workshop
Friday	8 June	6 th Folio Workshop
Friday	22 June	Folios due

**** Friday 6 April is Good Friday so the class will need to select a replacement day for the workshop. To be discussed at the first workshop in March.**

