



## **FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES**

## **INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE OF MODERN LETTERS**

### **CREATIVE WRITING PROGRAMME CREW 257 CREATIVE NONFICTION WORKSHOP 20 POINTS**

### **TRIMESTER 1 2015**

#### **Important dates**

**Trimester dates:** 2 March to 1 July 2015

**Teaching dates:** 2 March to 1 July 2015

**Easter/Mid-trimester break:** 3-19 April 2015

**Last assessment item due:** 19 June 2015

**Study week:** 8-12 June 2015

**Examination/Assessment Period:** 12 June to 1 July 2015

**Withdrawal dates:** Refer to [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/withdrawals-refunds](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/withdrawals-refunds). If you cannot complete an assignment or sit a test or examination, refer to [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats).

#### **Class times and locations**

Workshops take place 9.30am -12.30pm on Fridays in the seminar room of the International Institute of Modern Letters, 16 Waiteata Road. The first workshop is on Friday 6 March 2015.

#### **Names and contact details**

|                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| Course convenor | Harry Ricketts   |
| Office          | Room 402, 16 Waiteata Road OR Room VZ906                               |
| Ph (office)     | 463 6854 for messages on class days                                    |
| Email           | <a href="mailto:harry.ricketts@vuw.ac.nz">harry.ricketts@vuw.ac.nz</a> |

#### **Communication of additional information**

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

#### **Prescription**

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

## Course learning objectives (CLOs)

CREW 257 gives recognition to creative work in creative nonfiction writing, including autobiography, memoir, short life, personal essay, and travel writing. Student who pass this course should be able to:

- Improved their individual potential as a writer of creative nonfiction
- Improved their understanding of craft elements in creative nonfiction writing
- Improved their skills as a reader (as well as writer) of creative nonfiction.

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.

## Teaching format

The goals as listed in the CLOs 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 nonfiction writing, but will also try to develop individual voice and range.

## Individual Meetings

In addition to the workshops, I would like to meet with each of you once during the trimester to discuss your folio content. This will be at a time convenient to both of us.

## Mandatory course requirements

You must:

1. attend all workshops (subject to extenuating circumstances)
2. complete all the prescribed exercise work and commentary writing.

If you do not meet these requirements your portfolio may not be assessed and you may automatically fail the course.

## Workload

CREW 257 is formally a 20-point undergraduate course. Fulltime undergraduates should expect to spend approximately 15 hours per week, including the workshop hours, which is about 200 hours across the course.

## Assessment

Assessment for CREW 257 is based on the folio of writing that you submit at the end of the course. Two printed copies of your folio must be submitted on **Friday 19 June**. Two examiners (the workshop convenor and one external assessor), will read each folio.

## The Folio

In CREW 257 folios should be at least 6,000 words long with an upper limit of 12,000 words and will normally consist of **three** pieces of creative nonfiction plus a short introduction. **One** of your pieces should be in **two** versions: an early draft version and the finished text.

**Note** CREW 257 is assessed on a pass/fail basis only. If you pass the course you will receive Grade P (Ungraded Pass).

## Submission and return of work

You will deliver your final folio either to the Administration Office of the IIML (Room 402, 16 Waiteata Road) or at the Folio hand-in function on **Friday 19 June** (location to be advised). After assessment is completed, one copy of your folio will be returned to you, along with the written reports of the two readers, approximately one month after 19 June.

## Materials and equipment and/or additional expenses

**Note** Photocopying will be an additional expense for you. You will need to bring **thirteen** copies of each piece of work to workshop meetings.

## Set texts

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

The Course Reader will be sold from vicbooks: [www.vicbooks.co.nz](http://www.vicbooks.co.nz).

## Class representative

The class representative provides a useful way to communicate feedback to the teaching staff during the course. A class representative will be selected at the first lecture of the course. Students may like to write the Class Rep's name and details in this box:

|                                     |
|-------------------------------------|
| Class Rep name and contact details: |
|-------------------------------------|

## Student Feedback

Student feedback on University courses may be found at:  
[www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/feedback/feedback\\_display.php](http://www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/feedback/feedback_display.php).

## Other important information

The information above is specific to this course. There is other important information that students must familiarise themselves with, including:

- Academic Integrity and Plagiarism: [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/integrity-plagiarism](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/integrity-plagiarism)
- Aegrotats: [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats)
- Academic Progress: [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/academic-progress](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/academic-progress) (including restrictions and non-engagement)
- Dates and deadlines: [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/dates](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/dates)
- FHSS Student and Academic Services Office: [www.victoria.ac.nz/fhss/student-admin](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/fhss/student-admin)
- Grades: [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/grades](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/grades)

- Resolving academic issues: [www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications)
- Special passes: [www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications)
- Statutes and policies including the Student Conduct Statute: [www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/strategy](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/strategy)
- Student support: [www.victoria.ac.nz/students/support](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/support)
- Students with disabilities: [www.victoria.ac.nz/st\\_services/disability](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/st_services/disability)
- Student Charter: [www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/student-charter](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/student-charter)
- Student Contract: [www.victoria.ac.nz/study/apply-enrol/terms-conditions/student-contract](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/study/apply-enrol/terms-conditions/student-contract)
- Subject Librarians: <http://library.victoria.ac.nz/library/resources/subjectcontacts.html>
- Turnitin: [www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin](http://www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin)
- University structure: [www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/structure](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/structure)
- VUWSA: [www.vuwsa.org.nz](http://www.vuwsa.org.nz)

## Workshop Timetable

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

|        |          |                     |
|--------|----------|---------------------|
| Friday | 6 March  | Introductory        |
| Friday | 13 March | Workshop Exercise 1 |
| Friday | 20 March | Workshop Exercise 2 |
| Friday | 27 March | Workshop Exercise 3 |

**Mid trimester break 3-19 April. Workshop Exercise 4 which would have been scheduled for Friday 3 April (Good Friday) will be rescheduled after discussion in the Introductory workshop.**

|        |          |                                |
|--------|----------|--------------------------------|
| Friday | 24 April | Workshop Exercise 5            |
| Friday | 1 May    | 1 <sup>st</sup> Folio Workshop |
| Friday | 8 May    | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Folio workshop |
| Friday | 15 May   | 3 <sup>rd</sup> Folio workshop |
| Friday | 22 May   | 4 <sup>th</sup> Folio Workshop |
| Friday | 29 May   | 5 <sup>th</sup> Folio Workshop |
| Friday | 5 June   | 6 <sup>th</sup> Folio Workshop |
| Friday | 19 June  | <b>Folios due</b>              |