



**FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES**

**INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE OF MODERN LETTERS**

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

**TRIMESTER 1 2016**

## **Key dates**

**Trimester dates:** 29 February to 29 June 2016

**Teaching dates:** 29 February to 5 June 2016

**Easter break:** 24–30 March 2016

**Mid-trimester break:** 25 April to 1 May 2016

**Last assessment item due:** 17 June 2016

**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 4 March 2016.

## **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:

- Improve their individual potential as a writer of creative nonfiction
- Improve their understanding of craft elements in creative nonfiction writing
- Improve 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.

Any student who is concerned that they have been (or might be) unable to meet any of the MCRs because of exceptional personal circumstances, should contact the course coordinator as soon as possible.

## **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 17 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 17 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 17 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.

## 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)

- 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)
- Special passes: refer to the *Assessment Handbook*, at [www.victoria.ac.nz/documents/policy/staff-policy/assessment-handbook.pdf](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/documents/policy/staff-policy/assessment-handbook.pdf)
- 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)
- Subject Librarians: <http://library.victoria.ac.nz/library-v2/find-your-subject-librarian>
- Terms and conditions: [www.victoria.ac.nz/study/apply-enrol/terms-conditions/student-contract](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/study/apply-enrol/terms-conditions/student-contract)
- 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)
- Victoria graduate profile: [www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/graduate-profile](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/graduate-profile)
- 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 then on we will focus on folio work.

Friday	4 March	Introductory
Friday	11 March	Workshop Exercise 1
Friday	18 March	Workshop Exercise 2

### Easter break 24-30 March

Friday	1 April	Workshop Exercise 3
Friday	8 April	Workshop Exercise 4
Friday	15 April	Workshop Exercise 5
Friday	22 April	1 <sup>st</sup> Folio workshop

### Mid trimester break 25 April – 1 May

Friday	6 May	2 <sup>nd</sup> Folio workshop
Friday	13 May	3 <sup>rd</sup> Folio Workshop
Friday	20 May	4 <sup>th</sup> Folio Workshop
Friday	27 May	5 <sup>th</sup> Folio Workshop
Friday	3 June	6 <sup>th</sup> Folio Workshop
Friday	17 June	<b>Folios due</b>