CWL

Creative Writing and Literature

CWL 500: Introduction to Graduate Writing
A seminar that introduces students to one another, the faculty, the program in Writing and Literature, and to issues in contemporary writing. Offered in conjunction with the Writers Reading Series. Students will attend the regular series of readings sponsored by the Writing program and meet at weekly intervals under the direction of a faculty advisor to discuss and write about topics raised in the lecture series, as well as issues generated from seminar discussions.

Offered Fall, Spring, 3-4 credits, Letter graded (A, A-, B+, etc.)

CWL 510: Forms of Fiction
Regular submission, discussion, and analysis of students’ work in one or more of the modes of fiction, including the short story, the novella, and the novel. Writing assignments may include exercises, imitations, responses, and original work. Students will examine relevant works that illustrate point of view, character development, dialogue, plot, setting, theme, motif, and other aspects of fiction. Specific mode or topic to be studied will be announced in the course schedule.

Prerequisite: Permission of instructor and/or departmental consent
Offered Fall, Spring, 3-4 credits, Letter graded (A, A-, B+, etc.)
May be repeated for credit.

CWL 520: Forms of Poetry
Regular submission, discussion, and analysis of students’ work in one or more of the modes of poetry. Writing assignments may include exercises, imitations, responses, and original work. Students will examine relevant works that illustrate structural principles, metrical and syntactical rhythm, sound and rhyme, formal and stanzaic organization, the use of figurative language, and other aspects of poetry. Specific mode or topic to be studied will be announced in the course schedule.

Prerequisite: Permission of instructor and/or Program Director
Offered Fall, Spring, 3-4 credits, Letter graded (A, A-, B+, etc.)
May be repeated for credit.

CWL 530: Forms of Scriptwriting
Regular submission, discussion, and analysis of students’ work in one or more of the contemporary modes of scriptwriting, including writing for film, theater, radio, and television. Writing assignments may include exercises, imitations, responses, and original work. Students will examine relevant works that illustrate point of view, character development, dialogue, plot, setting, and other techniques vital to scriptwriting. Specific mode or topic to be studied will be announced in the course schedule.

Prerequisite: Permission of instructor and/or departmental consent
Offered Fall, Spring, 3-4 credits, Letter graded (A, A-, B+, etc.)
May be repeated for credit.

CWL 540: Forms of Creative Nonfiction
Regular submission, discussion, and analysis of students’ work in one or more of the contemporary fields of non-fiction writing, including biography, autobiography, memoir, expository writing, and social commentary. Writing assignments may include exercises, imitations, responses, and original work. Students will examine relevant works that illustrate the methods and techniques available to the non-fiction writer. Specific mode or topic to be studied will be announced in the course schedule.

Prerequisite: Permission of instructor and/or departmental consent
Spring, 3-4 credits, Letter graded (A, A-, B+, etc.)
May be repeated for credit.

CWL 550: Forms of Professional and Scientific Writing
Regular submission, discussion, and analysis of students’ work in one or more of the contemporary modes of professional writing, including technological writing, writing about science, and writing for advertising, including technological writing, writing about science, and writing for advertising, business, and public relations, as well as for governmental, educational, and professional organizations. Writing assignments may include exercises, imitations, responses, and original work. Students will examine relevant works that illustrate the strategies available in modern professional communication. Specific mode or topic to be studied will be announced in the course schedule.

Prerequisite: Permission of instructor and/or departmental consent
Offered Fall, Spring, 3-4 credits, Letter graded (A, A-, B+, etc.)
May be repeated for credit.

CWL 560: Topics in Literature for Writers
A seminar for writers concentrating on the study of one area of literary study, to be announced in the course schedule. The course may examine a contemporary or historical trend in literature, the rise of a specific genre, a social issue expressed in literature, an issue in literary theory, or any other topic of relevance and concern to students of writing. The emphasis will be on scholarly analysis.

Offered Fall, Spring, 3-4 credits, Letter graded (A, A-, B+, etc.)
May be repeated for credit.

CWL 565: Special Topics in Writing
A seminar concentrating on a specific topic or concern in writing. The particular theme of the course will be announced in the course schedule. Topics may include, among others, studies of character development, the uses of humor, writing about place, finding one’s voice, and narrative style. Written work will be supported by the reading of related texts.

Offered Fall, Spring, 3-4 credits, Letter graded (A, A-, B+, etc.)
May be repeated for credit.

CWL 570: Advanced Writing Workshop
The focus is on work in progress and the extension of the manuscript. The workshop is open to students interested in any form of writing. Students are encouraged to pursue their own writing interests while simultaneously being exposed to the work of others in varying genres. Regular writing is required, and vigorous analysis and discussion are encouraged. Strongly recommended for students preparing for the thesis.

Offered Fall, Spring, 3-4 credits, Letter graded (A, A-, B+, etc.)
May be repeated for credit.

CWL 575: Writers Conference
The Southampton Writers Conference is an intensive program of workshops in contemporary writing that includes lectures, readings, workshops, and panels featuring nationally distinguished authors who join the department’s summer faculty. Graduate students in the program will assist in planning and running the Conference, and will have the option of taking a Conference workshop for credit. The Writers Conference will also encourage participation by visiting students # new writers, established writers, teachers of writing and editors # who will be admitted by application and may receive academic credit upon request.

1-6 credits. Letter graded (A, A-, B+, etc.)
May be repeated for credit.

CWL 580: Practicum in Arts Administration
Practicum in Arts Administration Under the guidance of a faculty advisor, students will learn the essentials of Arts administration. This may include assisting in the coordination of reading and lecture series, conference organization, or other writing and arts
administration activities. 1-4 Credits. May be repeated for credit. Prerequisites: Permission of instructor and program director

SEMESTER: On Demand
1-4 credits, Letter graded (A, A-, B+, etc.)
May be repeated for credit.

CWL 581: Practicum in Teaching Writing
Students take the seminar in conjunction with teaching a section of WRT 101. This course provides hands-on experience and instruction in the basics of writing pedagogy, including designing writing assignments, sequencing assignments, motivating writing, writing skill development and evaluating writing. Students will also be given a preliminary overview of the major theories driving composition pedagogy.

Fall, 3 credits, Letter graded (A, A-, B+, etc.)

CWL 582: Practicum in Publishing and Editing
Under the guidance of the faculty advisor, students will be exposed to the hands-on process of editing and publishing a literary journal.

Offered Fall, Spring, 1-4 credits, Letter graded (A, A-, B+, etc.)
May be repeated for credit.

CWL 588: Independent Study
Independent studies in topics chosen by the student are arranged through an individual instructor.

1-6 credits, S/U grading
May be repeated for credit.

CWL 599: Thesis
Every student in the M.F.A. program in Writing must complete a thesis that is a publishable, book-length work. It may be fiction, non-fiction, poetry, or a script for the visual media. It may be a collection of short pieces. Its subject matter may be scientific or literary. It may be business-oriented or academic. The thesis is judged solely on the quality of its intelligence and its writing. Every student will, with the assistance of the program director, choose a thesis supervisor to provide guidance and criticism in the completion of the project. At the same time that the thesis supervisor is chosen, the program director will also guide the student in the selection of a thesis committee, which will consist of the thesis supervisor, one other member of the faculty in Writing, and one outside reader knowledgeable in the student's field of interest. Progress toward the completion of the thesis will be reviewed not only by the thesis supervisor but also by members of the thesis committee, at which point student will submit a bound copy of the thesis to the department.

1-9 Credits.
1-9 credits, S/U grading
May be repeated for credit.

CWL 600: Post MFA Creative Writing Fellow
CWL 600 provides students who have successfully completed the MFA in Creative Writing and Literature degree requirements access to an intellectual community of writers. Participants will be allowed to participate in one workshop or course per semester on a space available basis. The program office will communicate with enrollees prior to the start of the semester the workshops and courses available.

S/U grading
May be repeated for credit.

CWL 800: Summer Research
Independent reading, writing, research on topics or problems related to work on the MFA Thesis.

Prerequisite: Permission of instructor and/or program director
Summer, S/U grading
May be repeated for credit.