SHORT STORY WRITING
WR 324
4 credits
Prerequisite: WR 224

Rationale for conversion: The conversion will give students greater opportunity to practice critical thinking and creative writing through increased emphasis on revision, peer review, and reading/analysis of published fiction. The length and complexity of writing assignments will be increased a student presentation regarding the elements of craft in a published (print/non-print) work will be added, as well as required attendance and analysis of a literary event on campus or in the community.

The four credit version will:
- add a student presentation on craft, using digital and print sources;
- add a writing assignment analyzing a literary event on campus and in the community;
- increase length and complexity of written analysis of fiction, with peer review and revision component.

The syllabus is the four credit generic version.

Course Description
Study and writing of the short story. May be repeated to form a 12 credit sequence.

In this intermediate short story writing course, the assumption is that students have already learned basic fiction writing skills and are ready for more complex considerations of the craft of short story writing. We will study the elements of fiction—such as character, dialogue, narrative structure, point of view, and tone—to further develop our understanding of fictional techniques. Our class will include reading, writing, discussion, and workshop.

Student Learning Outcomes
- analyze and interpret published fiction for stylistic elements and meanings;
- recognize and use elements of narrative form as a means of discovering and conveying meaning for a reading audience;
- recognize and use writing processes effectively to generate, compose, organize, and revise writing;
- rhetorically analyze a variety of genres and forms appropriate to audience and purpose;
- develop and strengthen critical writing, reading, thinking, and communication skills for lifelong literacy.

This course meets the requirements for baccalaureate core courses in Writing II (Skills).

Learning Outcomes for Writing II (Skills)
1. Emphasize elements of critical thinking;
2. Focus on relevant theory, concepts, and techniques for understanding the form of communication involved and for improving skills;
3. Provide concepts and guidelines for determining effective communication within a specific area or discipline, including conventions of that field;
4. Require significant student practice or performance coupled with evaluation; and
5. Encourage appreciation and understanding of language, form, and style.

Requirements and Evaluation of Student Performance
Grading is based on performance and improvement in each area through the term.
1. Writing exercises, two short stories, and two revisions – 60%
2. Class attendance/participation/assigned readings – 10%
3. Written critiques of workshop stories -10%
4. A presentation on an assigned story – 10%
5. Attendance at a public reading and a written analysis – 10%

Text
*The Story and Its Writer, Compact Sixth Edition*, Charters

Statement Regarding Students with Disabilities
Accommodations are collaborative efforts between students, faculty, and Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD). Students with accommodations approved through SSD are responsible for contacting the faculty member in charge of the course prior to or during the first week of the term to discuss accommodations. Students who believe they are eligible for accommodations but who have not yet obtained approval through SSD should contact SSD immediately at 737-4098.

Link to Statement of Expectation for Student Conduct
http://oregonstate.edu/admin/stucon/achon/htm