



## DEPARTMENT OF ARTS AND EDUCATION

### COURSE OUTLINE – FALL 2017

#### EN2950 (A2): INTRODUCTION TO CREATIVE WRITING: PROSE – 3 (3-0-0) 45 Hours for 15 Weeks

**INSTRUCTOR:** Dr. Anna Lapointe      **PHONE:** 780-539-2992  
**OFFICE:** C-420      **E-MAIL:** [alapointe@gprc.ab.ca](mailto:alapointe@gprc.ab.ca)  
**OFFICE HOURS:** Mondays 2:00-3:30 pm; Tuesdays & Thursdays 3:00-4:00 pm;  
or by appointment

**CALENDAR DESCRIPTION:** At an introductory level, this course emphasizes the principles and practices of writing publishable prose. Students are encouraged to write in various genres aimed at traditional publication or other markets.

**PREREQUISITE(S)/COREQUISITE:** 6 credits of junior English. Students without the prerequisite may not receive credit for this course

#### **REQUIRED MATERIALS:**

- Vandermeer, Jeff, and John Coulthart. *Wonderbook: The Illustrated Guide to Creating Imaginative Fiction*. Abrams.
- Fiction readings are posted on Moodle. Students are responsible for ensuring that they can access these files.

**DELIVERY MODE:** Lecture and Discussion

**COURSE OBJECTIVES:** Students will use personal experiences and reflections on memory to produce writing that can be used as a foundation for both fiction and creative nonfiction, prepare samples of their work for group critique, offer constructive criticism on the work of others, and revise their own work in response to both instructor and group feedback.

**LEARNING OUTCOMES:** By the end of this course, students will be able to

- Articulate the distinctions between genres of prose writing
- Produce written work in at least two prose genres
- Prepare and present work for group feedback
- Offer feedback in a detailed and constructive manner
- Engage in detailed revision of creative prose
- Integrate a range of feedback in revising their work for submission

**TRANSFERABILITY:**

- Athabasca University: ENGL 3xx (3)
- Concordia University of Edmonton: WRI 291 (3)
- University of Alberta: WRITE 295 (3) OR AUENG 215 (3)
- University of Calgary: Sr. ENGL (3)
- University of Lethbridge, The: ENGL 3800 (3)

**Warning:** Although we strive to make the transferability information in this document up-to-date and accurate, **the student has the final responsibility for ensuring the transferability of this course to Alberta Colleges and Universities.** Please consult the Alberta Transfer Guide for more information. You may check to ensure the transferability of this course at Alberta Transfer Guide main page <http://www.transferralberta.ca> or, if you do not want to navigate through few links, at <http://alis.alberta.ca/ps/tsp/ta/tbi/onlineSearch.html?SearchMode=S&step=2>

**\*\* Grade of D or D+ may not be acceptable for transfer to other post-secondary institutions. Students are cautioned that it is their responsibility to contact the receiving institutions to ensure transferability**

**EVALUATIONS:**

Weekly assignments	30%
Final portfolio	30%
Presentation of work/response to critiques	10%
Participation (including in-class constructive critiques)	20%
Self-Evaluation	10%

Grading for this class differs from a standard English course. There is no single standard which students are expected to meet. Students enrolled in this course differ in experience and skill levels; those will not be the primary source of evaluation. Instead, students will be evaluated on the following criteria: contribution to class workshops, completion of course work, incorporation of critiques into edited work, and overall

improvement. These criteria are intended to emphasize commitment to the process of writing and improvement over the course of the term.

**GRADING CRITERIA:**

Please note that most universities will not accept your course for transfer credit **IF** your grade is **less than C-**.

<b>GRANDE PRAIRIE REGIONAL COLLEGE</b>			
<b>GRADING CONVERSION CHART</b>			
<b>Alpha Grade</b>	<b>4-point Equivalent</b>	<b>Percentage Guidelines</b>	<b>Designation</b>
<b>A<sup>+</sup></b>	<b>4.0</b>	<b>90 – 100</b>	<b>EXCELLENT</b>
<b>A</b>	<b>4.0</b>	<b>85 – 89</b>	
<b>A<sup>-</sup></b>	<b>3.7</b>	<b>80 – 84</b>	<b>FIRST CLASS STANDING</b>
<b>B<sup>+</sup></b>	<b>3.3</b>	<b>77 – 79</b>	
<b>B</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>73 – 76</b>	<b>GOOD</b>
<b>B<sup>-</sup></b>	<b>2.7</b>	<b>70 – 72</b>	
<b>C<sup>+</sup></b>	<b>2.3</b>	<b>67 – 69</b>	<b>SATISFACTORY</b>
<b>C</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>63 – 66</b>	
<b>C<sup>-</sup></b>	<b>1.7</b>	<b>60 – 62</b>	
<b>D<sup>+</sup></b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>55 – 59</b>	<b>MINIMAL PASS</b>
<b>D</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>50 – 54</b>	
<b>F</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0 – 49</b>	<b>FAIL</b>
<b>WF</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>FAIL, withdrawal after the deadline</b>

**COURSE SCHEDULE/TENTATIVE TIMELINE:**

Workshops will constitute a significant portion of the class time. The schedule for these will be posted on Moodle as soon as students have selected their workshop dates. Workshops will take place on Wednesdays. Other course readings are taken up on Mondays.

Students should have readings completed before coming to class. Ideally, take notes and be prepared to ask questions/offer comments and thoughts. The short stories listed below are posted on Moodle.

Week 1: *Wonderbook* chapter 1

Week 2: Ernest Hemingway – “Hills Like White Elephants”

Week 3: *Wonderbook* chapter 2

Week 4: Karen Russell – “Z.Z.’s Sleep-Away Camp for Disordered Dreamers”

Week 5: *Wonderbook* chapter 3

Week 6: Oct 17 – Sherman Alexie – “What You Pawn I Will Redeem”

Week 7: *Wonderbook* chapter 4

Week 8: Kathleen Hale – “The Tub Is Just the Safest Place”

Week 9: *Wonderbook* chapter 5

Week 10: Thomas McGuane – “Casserole”

Week 11: *Wonderbook* chapter 6

Week 12: Kelly Link – “The Summer People”

Week 13: *Wonderbook* chapter 7

### **STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:**

Student responsibilities are posted in detail on Moodle, along with a list of frequently asked questions. Please review that material as soon as possible, as you are responsible for it.

### **STATEMENT ON PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING:**

Cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated and there will be penalties. For a more precise definition of plagiarism and its consequences, refer to the Student Conduct section of the College Calendar at <http://www.gprc.ab.ca/programs/calendar/> or the College Policy on Student Misconduct: Plagiarism and Cheating at <https://www.gprc.ab.ca/about/administration/policies>

Within this course, plagiarism includes submitting another person's work as your own and submitting work done for a previous course as new work for this one. Literature has slightly different expectations for plagiarism; we will discuss these standards, and explore how to establish artistic integrity in our own work.

Instructors reserve the right to use electronic plagiarism detection services on written assignments. **Instructors also reserve the right to ban the use of any form of**

**electronics (cell phones, Blackberries, iPods, tablets, scanning pens, electronic dictionaries, etc.) during class and during exams.**

**\*\*Note: all Academic and Administrative policies are available on the same page.**