

TERM: Spring 2025

COURSE NUMBER & CATEGORY: ENGL 2400: Reading and Writing Genres

COURSE TITLE: The Art of the Short Story

SECTION TIMES/DAYS: TR 1:45-3:25 pm

INSTRUCTOR: Molly Youngkin

COURSE DESCRIPTION/PRINCIPAL TOPICS:

In this course, we will develop an awareness of the art of the short story, by reading short stories by a variety of writers and by writing our own fictional stories. This course assumes that the acts of reading and writing short stories inform each other, and each activity can be used to improve a student's ability to do the other well.

We will analyze the language of creative writers and literary critics and improve our ability to use the literary conventions of fiction. We will discuss conventions such as plot, character, setting, point of view, and style, and we will engage a variety of critical perspectives as we read and write short stories.

You will be expected to participate in class discussion, peer response workshops, and other class activities. We will do weekly writing exercises; write an 8-10 page short story; and write a 5-7 page critical paper involving research.

Required textbooks: Gioia, Dana, and R. S. Gwynn, editors. *The Art of the Short Story*. Longman, 2006. ISBN 9780321363633; Novakovich, Josip. *Fiction Writer's Workshop*. 2nd ed. Story Press, 2008. ISBN 9781582975368

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

- Students can analyze a genre, form, or mode by writing critically about them
- Students can write original work in a genre, form, or mode

CLASS LEVEL RESTRICTION:

N/A

RECOMMENDED/PREREQUISITES:

English Major/Minor

COURSE ATTRIBUTES:

OLD CURRICULUM

- GENRES (LD)
- HISTORIES (LD)
- AUTHORS (UD)
- CRITICAL/THEORETICAL (UD)
- COMPARATIVE (UD)
- CREATIVE/ARTISTRY (UD)

NEW CURRICULUM

- DISCIPLINARY RESEARCH (LD)
- HISTORY OF LIT, MEDIA, AND CULTURE (LD)
- READING AND WRITING GENRES (LD)
- THEORY, POWER, AND RHETORIC (LD)
- PRE-1800 (UD)
- CREATIVE ARTISTRY (UD)
- RACE, INTERSECTIONALITY, AND POWER (UD)
- UPPER-DIVISION ELECTIVE (UD)
- 5000-LEVEL SEMINAR (UD)