

Creative Writing Fiction: WR 241

Spring 2023

Instructor Information and Availability

Course Information

Prerequisites:

Needed for Class:

Assignments

In-class writing exercise & Moodle homework/readings (50% of grade)

In-class writing assignments

Moodle homework/readings

Project Rough Draft - Due May 21 (10%)

Part One

Part Two

Part Three

Final Project - Due June 4 (15%)

Final Project Self-Reflection

Conference with Professor (5% of grade)

Participation & Attendance (50%)

Grading

College Policies

LBCC Email and Course Communications

Disability and Access Statement

Statement of Inclusion

Title IX Reporting Policy

Public Safety/Campus Security/Emergency Resources:

Instructor Information and Availability

Instructor name: Karelia Stetz-Waters

Phone number: 541-917-4556

E-mail address: stetzwk@linnbenton.edu

Office number: North Santiam Hall 212

Sign up for office hours here: <https://tinyurl.com/KSWoffice>
Attend office hours on Zoom <https://tinyurl.com/KSWZoom>
The password is: Pug

Course Information

Course name: Creative Writing: Fiction
Scheduled time/days: Tues./Thurs 2:30 - 3:50 PM
Location: NSH 109
Number of credits: 3

Prerequisites:

WR 121

Needed for Class:

- Internet access
- Pen/paper

Assignments

- In-class writing exercises & Moodle homework/readings = 50%
- Project rough draft = 15%
- Conference with professor = 5%
- Final project = 20%
- Presentation = 10%

In-class writing exercise & Moodle homework/readings (50% of grade)

Your grade will be based on 10 - 20 in-class exercises and homework. The number and type of assignments will depend on class participation, your interests, people's general skill levels, and my choice.

In-class writing assignments

If you are in class and give the writing assignments your best shot, you'll receive full credit. If you have an emergency and must miss class, contact me so I can set up an alternate assignment for you.

Moodle homework/readings

Readings will be posted in Moodle. You will annotate (write comments on) the readings and respond to your classmates' comments. Instructions in Moodle will explain what your comments should look like.

Other Moodle homework assignments will be relatively fun and relatively short.

Project Rough Draft - Due May 21 (10%)

Everything you do in this class builds toward one large project. For your rough draft, you should have completed most of the project. You can find more about the project below.

In short, you have three options for the final project:

- Write a short story (1500 word max)
- Write the first chapter of a book (1500 word max)
- Create a book proposal (1500 word max)

We'll talk more about what these three things look like so you can choose the right option for you.

Part One

Write the rough draft. Whichever option you choose, you will incorporate all the lessons we covered in class. For your rough draft, I'd like you to include the following:

- Create interesting, unique character(s). Be sure to use the three-part formula for character introduction.
- Create a sense of place that is vivid and amplifies ideas/themes/emotions/etc. in the work.
- Demonstrate that you can show as well as tell.
- Whether you write realistic fiction or sci-fi/fantasy/speculative fiction, demonstrate that you have fully realized the world of the story.
- Craft engaging, believable, character-specific dialogue that advances the plot. (If you are writing the book proposal, write a short sample of dialogue.)

If you are writing the first chapter of a novel or doing a book proposal, outline your nine-point plot. Short story writers, you don't have to do this part.

Revise your document to make it the best it can be.

Part Two

Annotate or create an annotated version of your rough draft. In this version, you will include comments indicating places where you have applied specific lessons from class. These can be related to the content items above (character, place etc.) or to the craft elements we discussed in class. Aim for ten thoughtful comments. I will grade you on how well you tried to apply the class lessons, not on how well you succeeded in writing a gorgeous piece of fiction. Your comments show me how you tried.

Part Three

Include two questions that you'd like me to answer about your work. These can be questions that elicit critique, praise, analysis etc. You can ask about craft, content, structure, publishing potential etc. The more thoughtful your question, the more substantive my answer will be.

Final Project - Due June 4 (15%)

Everything you do in this class builds toward one large project.

You have three options:

- Write a short story
- Write the first chapter of a book
- Create a book proposal

We'll talk more about what these three things look like so you can choose the right option for you.

Whichever option you choose, you will incorporate all the lessons we covered in class.

This includes the following:

- Create interesting, unique character(s). Be sure to use the three-part formula for character introduction.
- Create a sense of place that is vivid and amplifies ideas/themes/emotions/etc. in the work.
- Demonstrate that you can show as well as tell.
- Whether you write realistic fiction or sci-fi/fantasy/speculative fiction, demonstrate that you have fully realized the world of the story.
- Craft engaging, believable, character-specific dialogue that advances the plot. (If you are writing the book proposal, write a short sample of dialogue.)
- If you are writing the first chapter of a novel or doing a book proposal, outline your nine-point plot. Short story writers, you don't have to do this part.
- Revise your document to make it the best it can be.

Final Project Self-Reflection

When you turn in your final project, please include answers to the following self-reflection questions (at least 300 words per answer).

- What changes did you make between the rough draft and the final? Why did you make these changes? If you didn't make any changes, convince me that your first draft was so good it could not possibly be improved upon.
- What part of this work do you think is strongest?
- How can you apply the skill(s) you demonstrated in this writing project to something in your life that isn't fiction writing? (It doesn't have to be another writing project.)

Conference with Professor (5% of grade)

Sometime during Weeks 5, 6, or 7, you will set up a conference with on Zoom or in my office. We'll talk about your work.

Participation & Attendance (50%)

To receive full credit on in-class assignments:

- Arrive as close to on time as you can
- Come prepared if I've assigned readings etc. ahead of time
- Write diligently when I give you class time to write
- Be prepared to share what you write with the class. (Don't worry. This will be a supportive environment.)
- Be kind

The materials you write in class will build toward your final project.

If you can't make it to class, I will create an alternative assignment for you to do.

If you are mean to your classmates, I will warn you twice. If you're mean again, I will fail you.

Grading

Because people come into WR 241, grading will be based on effort. Here is how I assess effort:

- Has the writer attended and participated in class in a meaningful way?
- Does the work fulfill all parts of the assignment guidelines?
- Has the writer tried to apply the lessons learned in class?
- Can the writer talk about their work?
- For the big project, has the writer integrated in-class work into a coherent whole (in other words they did more than just put all the in-class work in one big Google doc)
- Is the work well proofread?

College Policies

LBCC Email and Course Communications

You are responsible for all communications sent via Moodle and to your LBCC email account. You are required to use your LBCC provided email account for all email communications at the College. You may access your LBCC student email account through Student Email and your Moodle account through Moodle.

Disability and Access Statement

Use one of three approved syllabus statements located on the [Center for Accessibility Resources Faculty Resources](#) webpage.

Statement of Inclusion

To promote academic excellence and learning environments that encourage multiple perspectives and the free exchange of ideas, all courses at LBCC will provide students the opportunity to interact with values, opinions, and/or beliefs different than their own in safe, positive and nurturing learning environments. LBCC is committed to producing culturally literate individuals capable of interacting, collaborating and problem-solving in an ever-changing community and diverse workforce.

Title IX Reporting Policy

If you or another student are the victim of any form of sexual misconduct (including dating/domestic violence, stalking, sexual harassment), or any form of gender discrimination, LBCC can assist you. You can [report](#) a violation of our sexual misconduct policy directly to our Title IX Coordinator. You may also report the issue to a faculty member, who is required to notify the Coordinator, or you may make an appointment to speak confidentially to our Advising and Career Center by calling 541-917-4780.

Public Safety/Campus Security/[Emergency Resources](#):

In an emergency, call 911. Also, call LBCC Campus Security/Public Safety at 541-926-6855 and 541-917-4440.

From any LBCC phone, you may alternatively dial extension 411 or 4440. LBCC has a [public safety app](#) available for free. We encourage people to download it to their cell phones. Public Safety also is the home for LBCC's Lost & Found. They provide escorts for safety when needed. Visit them to learn more.