



# Coursebook

M.A./M.F.A. in Creative Writing

Monmouth University

Department of English

COURSE OFFERINGS  
FALL 2020, SPRING 2021

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# CLASSES BY DAY AND TIME FALL 2020:

## **Craft Intensive Seminar: The Novella**

**Alena Graedon**

EN-652-50

Monday: 6:05PM-9:00PM

**Fiction**

In this graduate craft intensive seminar, we will focus on the novella form. We will read a variety of long short stories and novellas, from classic to contemporary works, and students will produce their own novella-length work. This course is particularly well suited to those preparing a thesis manuscript, especially in the genre of fiction. But it is open to any graduate student interested in examining this expansive, in-between form. Over the course of the semester, you'll workshop three original pieces, which will ideally be linked to one another, each consisting of 12-20 pages of prose. You'll also write a final piece of 6-9 pages, revise one of your workshop submissions, write a number of exercises, respond to classmates' writing, and compose short, critical analyses of the required texts.

## **Seminar in Creative Writing: Poetry**

**Mihaela Moscaliuc**

EN-609-50

Tuesday: 6:05PM-9:00PM

**Poetry**

In this seminar we will read and discuss contemporary poetry with an eye toward understanding and honing techniques in craft, and will generate and revise poems that demonstrate range and skill. Students will prepare and receive detailed feedback on the workshopped poems. In addition to producing and revising original work, students will write focused responses to some of the assigned readings and will demonstrate familiarity with the critical vocabulary and tools of poetry.

## **Fiction Workshop**

**Alex Gilvarry**

EN-611-01 (Seminar in CW: Fiction)

Tues & Thurs: 4:30PM-5:50PM

**Fiction**

Students will analyze in a workshop setting their own short stories for intensive examination by workshop participants. Light reading may be assigned. This course may be retaken for credit.

# **The Writer's Craft: Transgressions**

**Alena Graedon**

EN-615-50 (Seminar in CW: Writer's Craft)

Wednesday: 6:05PM-9:00PM

**Multi-genre**

Ezra Pound's famous 1934 slogan, "Make it new," has beguiled generations of writers. But what does it mean? And how do we do it? As we strive to capture our lived experience in language with authenticity and novelty, practitioners of literary arts are often drawn towards transgression. A reliable method for getting readers to pay attention, to think, and—most important—to feel, is to surprise them. In this graduate literature and craft seminar, our focus will be on the aesthetic development and critical analysis of your own original writing. Through the close examination of your work, as well as of several relevant texts, we'll develop a vocabulary for discussing key elements of craft. We'll primarily read recent works of literature, but we'll also read some seminal and still-relevant works of early literary transgression so that we can gain a deeper understanding of the sources from which contemporary writers have drawn inspiration.

# CLASSES BY DAY AND TIME SPRING 2021:

## **Publishing Seminar**

**Alena Graedon**

EN-650-50 (formerly Internship Seminar)

Monday: 6:05PM-9:00PM

**Multi-genre**

A seminar designed for students who are interested in pursuing professional experience in publishing, media, the teaching of creative writing, and related fields.

Guest speakers such as authors, editors, agents, and scholars will be invited.

## **Seminar in Creative Writing: Poetry**

**Mihaela Moscaliuc**

EN-609-50

Tuesday: 6:05PM-9:00PM

**Poetry**

In this seminar we will read and discuss contemporary poetry with an eye toward understanding and honing techniques in craft, and will generate and revise poems that demonstrate range and skill. Students will prepare and receive detailed feedback on the workshopped poems. In addition to producing and revising original work, students will write focused responses to some of the assigned readings and will demonstrate familiarity with the critical vocabulary and tools of poetry.

## **Seminar in Creative Writing: Non-Fiction**

**Mary Kate Azcuy**

EN-607-50

Wednesday: 6:05PM-9:00PM

**Non-fiction**

Students will analyze, in a workshop setting, readings in creative non-fiction to understand and become aware of the variant forms, techniques, and approaches used. As workshop participants, students will write and analyze their own creative nonfiction pieces. This course may be retaken for credit.

## **Suspension of Disbelief**

**Alex Gilvarry**

EN-615-50 (Seminar in CW: Writer's Craft)

Thursday: 6:05PM-9:00PM

**Fiction**

Vladimir Nabokov once wrote: “Literature is invention. Fiction is fiction. To call a story a true story is an insult to both art and truth. Every great writer is a great deceiver. . . .” To be a great deceiver, one must be a master of believability. But how do we get our reader, no matter the genre of our stories, to willingly suspend disbelief? In this seminar we will study works of fiction that demonstrate authority and believability through voice, language, research, and other literary techniques and strategies. We’ll look at novels, short stories, and some critical works that demonstrate Aristotle’s term of art known as *suspension of disbelief*. For the majority of the class students will read and discuss works of literature, from traditional novels to the experimental. This class will have a workshop component (1-2 submissions) where students will hold their own stories under the microscope of believability.

## INSTRUCTORS:



### Alex Gilvarry M.F.A.

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