



THE UNIVERSITY
OF THE
WEST INDIES

COURSE TITLE: INTRODUCTION TO CREATIVE WRITING

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Participants will be exposed to a variety of fiction writing techniques characteristic of the genres of prose, poetry and drama. They will be expected to experiment with these techniques to add depth to their own writing and increase their creative repertoire.

PURPOSE

This course is designed to introduce students to the formal study of fiction and to provide them with a structured environment in which to hone their creative writing skills. It aims to develop students' ability to analyse literature with the purpose of encouraging them to reflect upon and ultimately improve their own literary output.

AIM

The aim of this course is to develop competence in the three genres of fiction: prose, poetry and drama.

GENERAL OBJECTIVES

At the end of the course, participants will be able to

1. Identify and critically analyse the stylistic techniques characteristic of prose, poetry and drama in the works of established writers.
2. Experiment with different writing techniques peculiar to the genres of prose, poetry and drama.
3. Write reflective essays in which they critically analyse their writing to identify their strengths and weaknesses.
4. Use the creative writing process to give and receive feedback and revise their work.

COURSE CONTENT

1. THE CREATIVE WRITING PROCESS

- a. Invention Techniques
- b. Drafting
- c. Revising
- d. Giving and receiving feedback

2. ELEMENTS OF FICTION

- a. Plot
- b. Theme
- c. Characterisation

- d. Dialogue
- e. Setting
- f. Voice/Tone/Style
- g. Narrative Perspective/ point of view

3. ELEMENTS OF POETRY

- a. Poetic Forms-rhyme, metre and stress patterns, free verse
- b. Poetry and story, narrative image
- c. Personae
- d. Dramatization of poetry

4. ELEMENTS OF DRAMA

- a. Characterisation
- b. Mood/atmosphere
- c. Dialogue
- d. Plot
- e. Suspense
- f. Dramatic Techniques, dramatic functions

5. PRESENTATIONS

- a. Reading/dramatization of work

The University reviews tuition fees annually and course fees may be subject to change.

Courses are only offered if there is a viable class size.