ENGLISH 335 (01)
Creative Writing
— Fall 1991 —

Times: 2:30-4:00 TR; HH 1239
Instructor: David Wade
Office: HH 228C (885-1211, ext. 3886)
Hours: 1:30-2:30 TR

Reading/Reference

One other popular paperback will be chosen by each student for their 'genre
analysis' presentation.
You are also expected to purchase the monthly magazine Writer's Digest during
the course (available at the Campus Bookstore, Smiths, K.W. Book Exchange, etc.)

Objectives

The focus of ENGL 335 will be on the writing of popular fiction, the kind of
paperback novels you read on a plane or at the beach for your own pleasure, not
because someone else dictated they are 'required reading.' These so-called
category novels are sometimes dismissed as merely formulaic. This need not be
the case. All genres (mysteries, historical romances, quest fantasies, and so on) do
have a shortlist of 'required ingredients', but writers of popular stories also have a
surprising freedom to exercise their own ingenuity and inventiveness.

We will explore a very methodical approach to constructing the novel—one
which relies far more on sure and steady application than on the benign whim of
some nebulous muse.

The goals of ENGL 335 this fall then are:

1) to build up your confidence for tackling any lengthy and involved
literary project,

2) to give you practice at creating imaginative and commercially
acceptable fiction, and

3) to provide an in-depth look at exactly what is involved in
producing a saleable manuscript today.

We will examine the whole process from "Where do you get the original
idea?" to "Do you really need an agent?"

The class will be divided into small teams for one assignment but the main
concentration will be on each individual's major fiction project.
Marks

10% Book/Market report (prepared as a small group, but graded individually)
90% Major book project - broken down as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Pages</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 8</td>
<td>Concept/framework (point outline)/</td>
<td></td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>character sketches/research notes</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct. 22</td>
<td>Plot synopsis</td>
<td>10-12pp</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov. 12</td>
<td>Sample chapter (opening)</td>
<td>8-10pp</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec. 9</td>
<td>1 other major scene/part-chapter</td>
<td>8-10pp</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Query letter/marketing plan</td>
<td></td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

There is no specific percentage allocated for participation, however, your enthusiasm for and contributions to in-class discussions will almost certainly colour your overall grade.