**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course is an introduction to Creative Writing. While the main purpose of this course is to allow students to develop and discuss their creative writing interests and skills, the course itself is intensive, with marks being given for weekly in-class assignments, weekly homework assignments, and bi-weekly workshop submissions. Students will be taught various writing genres, techniques, and exercises, and will be given opportunities to practise and to discuss them. Most of the course mark is based on material arising from class interaction, making regular attendance and active participation mandatory. Keep all main drafts of your work as you may need them for your final portfolio.

**COURSE MATERIALS**

There are no required texts for this course, but you will be expected to bring photocopies of workshop material to class for me and your workshop group.

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

**IN-CLASS EXERCISES (20%)**

Students will be given 10 in-class exercises, each worth 2% of your total mark. A few students will have their results discussed on the spot by the class. You should expect to have your exercises discussed in this way at least two or three times in the semester. Exercises will be handed in at the end of class and will be returned to you the following week.

**TAKE-HOME ASSIGNMENTS (40%)**

You will write ten take-home assignments, each worth 4% of your total mark. If you are unable to attend class when an assignment is distributed, get the assignment from another student or from me during my office hours. Likewise, if you are unable to attend when an assignment is due, have another student deliver it or leave it in my mailbox before the class in which it is due. There are no extensions on assignments, except in the case of a medical emergency (doctor's note required). A few students will have their assignments discussed by the class. You should expect to have your assignments discussed in this way at least two or three times in the semester. Assignments will be handed in at the end of class and will be returned to you the following week.

**WORKSHOP MATERIAL AND PARTICIPATION (20%)**

Students will submit creative work-in-progress (short stories, poems, novel chapters, etc.) five times in the semester as per the attached schedule. This material will be discussed the week after it is submitted in pre-established workshop groups of approximately five students. If you submit material late or are absent on the workshop day, the material cannot be workshopped. Workshop material may be either new to the class or significantly developed pieces from exercises or assignments. Each workshop session is worth 4% of your total mark.

**FINAL PORTFOLIO (20%)**

Each student will submit a final portfolio of roughly 10 to 15 pages of your best revised pieces written for the course with a one to two page rationale explaining selections. The portfolio must include earlier drafts of the writing.
TENTATIVE CLASS SCHEDULE

WK 1: - Introduction, Procedures, Workshop Groups Established
- In-Class Exercise 1
- Assignment 1 Distributed.

WK 2: - Assignment 1 Due (Assignment 2 Distributed)
- Workshop Material Due
- In-Class Exercise 2

WK 3: - Assignment 2 Due (Assignment 3 Distributed)
- Workshop Session
- In-Class Exercise 3

WK 4: - Assignment 3 Due (Assignment 4 Distributed)
- Workshop Material Due
- In-Class Exercise 4

WK 5: - Assignment 4 Due (Assignment 5 Distributed)
- Workshop Session
- In-Class Exercise 5

WK 6: - Assignment 5 Due (Assignment 6 Distributed)
- Workshop Material Due
- In-Class Exercise 6

WK 7: WINTER STUDY PERIOD

WK 8: - Assignment 6 Due (Assignment 7 Distributed)
- Workshop Session
- In-Class Exercise 7

WK 9: - Assignment 7 Due (Assignment 8 Distributed)
- Workshop Material Due
- In-Class Exercise 8

WK 10: - Assignment 8 Due (Assignment 9 Distributed)
- Workshop Session
- In-Class Exercise 9

WK 11: - Assignment 9 Due (Assignment 10 Distributed)
- Workshop Material Due
- In-Class Exercise 10

WK 12: - Assignment 10 Due
- Workshop Session
FINAL PORTFOLIO DUE