



ENGL304

Creative Writing 2: Concept and Practice

S2 Day 2014

English

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

Unit Convenor

Marcelle Freiman

marcelle.freiman@mq.edu.au

Contact via marcelle.freiman@mq.edu.au

W6A 638

Tbc

Lecturer

Rebecca Giggs

rebecca.giggs@mq.edu.au

Contact via rebecca.giggs@mq.edu.au

W6A 626

Tbc

Credit points

3

Prerequisites

6cp at 200 level including ENGL201

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description

This unit extends the practical work and learning methodologies of ENGL201. It is based on seminar workshops, lectures, and practical writing activities. The unit encourages responses to different context-based and theoretical approaches to creative writing. It aims to develop practical written and reflective skills, and the capacity to use language and form. It encourages students to attempt new ways of writing, to develop their work into finished texts, and to consciously position these texts within the wider discourse. In this unit, creative writing is taught within contexts of contemporary relevance, in order to broaden students' range and encourage reflection about their writing. Students are expected to develop their creative writing and increase their knowledge about its contexts by producing writing throughout the unit. Unit topics and readings provide literary and theoretical examples to stimulate intellectual and creative enquiry.

Important Academic Dates

Information about important academic dates including deadlines for withdrawing from units are

available at <https://www.mq.edu.au/study/calendar-of-dates>

Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this unit, you will be able to:

- Identify key theoretical and practical concepts and integrate them in creative writing
- Compose several pieces of conceptually developed creative writing
- Employ written and language skills in different creative writing contexts.
- Reflect on student's own creative writing processes.
- Critique and analyse literary and theoretical texts.
- Appraise and critique students' writing in workshop environment.

General Assessment Information

Assessments: an extra note on word length, criteria and penalties for written assessment tasks

- Word or line lengths and marking criteria are provided in the above details for each assignment.
- It is necessary to set word or line limits for assignments, though we have no wish to restrain your creativity. It is important to learn to write concisely, clearly and with a direct style. You should avoid submitting 'wordy' stories that are way over the word limit (penalties of 10% per 200 words over or under the limit will apply), or very short poems (**if your poem is made up of very short lines, then you need to submit more than the minimum specified lines for assignments). Your work should be substantial enough to show your full engagement with the unit topics.
- There is 10% wiggle room on prescribed word and line length. No penalty applies to students who remain within the 10% leeway given
- Note the relative weightings of the assessment tasks.
- Is your assignment on time? Without documentation (medical or counselling certificate), a penalty of 2% per day, including weekends, will be applied. This is policy of the Department of English. Late penalty applies from the deadline date and time of the online Turnitin submission.

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Due
<u>Assignment 1</u>	30%	19 September

Name	Weighting	Due
Assignment 2	10%	13 October
Participation	20%	20 Sept, 12 Nov
Assignment 3	40%	12 November

Assignment 1

Due: **19 September**

Weighting: **30%**

Creative writing + reflective statement

Creative writing: Prose. 1750 words + a 300 word reflective statement. Poetry: at least 100 lines + 300 word reflective statement. 10% wiggle room. Penalties for over and under length assignments

Details This assignment requires the submission of creative writing and a short reflective statement. Students must submit, *as one document* via the Turnitin link for Assignment 1:

1) One piece of writing that you have written and which you *may* have workshopped. This writing should have been rewritten, and conceptually developed well beyond a writing exercise. Attention must be given to structure and language-use as well as creative ideas. The piece must be based on at least one or more of the course topics or strategies covered to date.

Criteria for the creative writing:

- response to the unit topics and ideas dealt with so far,
- extent of realization of the concept;
- your willingness to re-work and process your writing,
- extent to which you have realised your concept in creative writing,
- language and writing skills
- narrative skills and other concepts pertaining to form and structure

AND

2) A reflective statement on the submitted piece should demonstrate the following criteria:

- topic and theoretical or creative writing context you have utilized and how your creative writing emerged from a writing exercise
- awareness of your creative ideas and practical writing process
- any problems you encountered in the writing process
- how you tried to solve them

Word length: Creative writing 1750 words + 300 word reflective statement. Poetry at least 100 lines + reflection 300 words

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Identify key theoretical and practical concepts and integrate them in creative writing
- Compose several pieces of conceptually developed creative writing
- Employ written and language skills in different creative writing contexts.
- Reflect on student's own creative writing processes.

Assignment 2

Due: **13 October**

Weighting: **10%**

Critique and analysis

Word length: 400 words

This short prose critique should be written in a thoughtful and analytical way. This is a different discourse to the reflective essay: it is written as a 'mini essay discussion', with ideas developed in an argument. The critique must engage with an issue in the chosen reading that is relevant to this unit. You may use any of the readings in the unit, either a literary work (story, poem, essay) or a theoretical work.

Marking criteria:

- Interpretation, analysis and synthesis of ideas about the reading
- Integration with unit concept(s)
- Organization and integration of ideas into an argument discourse
- Writing skills – syntax and grammar, sentence structure, language-use, vocabulary, paragraphing

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Employ written and language skills in different creative writing contexts.
- Critique and analyse literary and theoretical texts.

Participation

Due: **20 Sept, 12 Nov**

Weighting: **20%**

Marks are given at two intervals: 10% 20 September, 10% 12 November.

Students are expected to attend all classes and attend or listen to all lectures. Absence from seminars will affect participation marks and may result in failure of the unit. If you are sick and can't attend class, please provide medical documentation.

The marks given for participation are for your active participation in seminars and workshop activities, including online participation for external students and where prompted for all students.

This includes:

- uploading your creative writing for workshopping to the website on time by Monday 5 pm latest of the week you are scheduled to workshop for **Wednesday and Thursday classes**

and

- bringing copies of other students' work, which you have downloaded, printed and read, to class as scheduled for the week;
- bringing a printed copy of your own work to class when you are scheduled to workshop;
- giving feedback notes and constructive criticism to other students, written on their scripts (this can be done in class when we workshop, but should also be part of your reading their work before class);
- presenting *your discussion of the reading* selected for you in the week that you are scheduled to do so;
- contributing to class group discussion of the readings each week, *having read the readings before the class*;
- doing other online tasks as required.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Identify key theoretical and practical concepts and integrate them in creative writing
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- Appraise and critique students' writing in workshop environment.

Assignment 3

Due: **12 November**

Weighting: **40%**

Creative writing + reflective essay.

Prose: Word count 2250 words + reflective essay of 700 words. Poetry: at least 150 lines + reflective essay of 700 words.

Details

This assignment consists of two parts. Students must submit, *as one document* via the Turnitin link for Assignment 3:

(1) A substantially developed work of creative writing based on one or several of the unit topics.

The work you submit must relate to unit content, topics and issues. You are encouraged to 'network' several techniques and approaches dealt with in this unit. Your text may include work

you have workshopped though you are expected to have developed it *substantially and extensively* since the workshop, or if not workshopped, from your initial writing draft.

* Work that has already been submitted for Assignment 1 cannot be included in this assignment.

AND (2) An essay of 700 words on your own creative process in writing your final assignment piece (1)

The essay is self-reflective. It should demonstrate your consideration of theoretical issues and readings and how they contextualise your work, as well as how you have used the unit writing strategies and topics. The essay should also include information about the techniques and working methods used in writing this work. You may use first person. You should not write a literary criticism of your writing, but rather reflect on its making. Use correct referencing for quotations.

Your creative work is assessed on its:

- • evident relationship to theoretical issues and material covered in the unit
- • realisation of concept/ substantiality
- • structure of the whole and its parts,
- • techniques in narrative and other writing techniques
- • language-use, grammar, syntax, sentence structure, paragraphing
- • presentation of the whole assignment

The reflective essay is assessed on its:

- relationship to your creative work, unit topics and other theoretical contexts or readings relevant to its writing
- demonstration of capacity to reflect on your writing
- clarity of writing, writing skills, organisation of ideas

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Identify key theoretical and practical concepts and integrate them in creative writing
- Compose several pieces of conceptually developed creative writing
- Employ written and language skills in different creative writing contexts.
- Reflect on student's own creative writing processes.

Delivery and Resources

- **Unit iLearn Website**
- Online units you are enrolled in can be accessed at: <http://ilearn.mq.edu.au>
- The unit's iLearn site will be available from Week 1. Please login and explore the website.

- PC and Internet access are required. Basic computer skills (e.g., internet browsing) and skills in word processing are also a requirement
- **Lectures for this unit are fortnightly, beginning in Week 2, and are recorded and available through Echo360 link, ie no attendance at lectures. Seminar classes start in Week 1 and must be attended each week.**
- Absence from seminars without written explanation (medical or counselling certificate) will result in loss of the participation mark and may disqualify a student from passing the unit (University regulations stipulate that a student must attempt every part of assessment in order to be eligible to pass a unit of study). If you have to miss a seminar, please email your lecturer with explanation.

Required and recommended reading

Required

Essential prescribed weekly readings for this unit are in **Library Multisearch**. Enter **ENGL304 unit code in Unit Readings tab**. http://www.mq.edu.au/on_campus/library/

Recommended

- Jack Hodgins, *A Passion for Narrative*, McClelland and Stewart, 2001.
- Hazel Smith, *The Writing Experiment: Strategies for innovative creative writing*, Allen and Unwin, 2005.
- David Morley, *The Cambridge Introduction to Creative Writing*, UK, Cambridge UP, 2007
- Mark Tredinnick, *The Little Green Grammar Book*, Sydney, UNSW Press, 2008
- Strunk and White, *Elements of Style*

Unit Schedule

Week:

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Story and narrative - Short story (1)
3. Story and narrative - Short story (2)
- 4 Global writing
- 5 Rewriting narratives
- 6 Postmodern story
- 7 Writing other worlds

8 Identity and subjectivity

9 Writing gender

10 Collage

11 Hybrid Genres

12 Eco poetry

Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from [Policy Central](#). Students should be aware of the following policies in particular with regard to Learning and Teaching:

Academic Honesty Policy http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/academic_honesty/policy.html

Assessment Policy <http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/assessment/policy.html>

Grading Policy <http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/grading/policy.html>

Grade Appeal Policy <http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/gradeappeal/policy.html>

Grievance Management Policy http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/grievance_management/policy.html

Disruption to Studies Policy http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/disruption_studies/policy.html *The Disruption to Studies Policy is effective from March 3 2014 and replaces the Special Consideration Policy.*

In addition, a number of other policies can be found in the [Learning and Teaching Category](#) of Policy Central.

Student Code of Conduct

Macquarie University students have a responsibility to be familiar with the Student Code of Conduct: https://students.mq.edu.au/support/student_conduct/

Unit Requirements and Expectations

To complete this unit, students must

- complete and submit *all* assessment tasks; attend and participate in all seminar classes and in-class workshop activities, do online tasks when requested;
- attend lectures or listen to the Echo360 recordings;
- be prepared for classes by doing the readings
- Students must upload their workshop writing as an attachment to their iLearn website class forum when they are scheduled to workshop by the dates specified.
- Missed classes can result in failure of the unit.

- It is a requirement of this unit that all creative work handed in for workshops or as assignments is new work written during this unit and engaging with unit topics. Work from a concurrent unit or previous units or studies must not be presented for workshops or assessments. Creative writing written prior to the unit commencing cannot be presented either. Please see University Academic Honesty policy

Assignment Late Penalty

10% per day or part of day is applied to assignments submitted to Turnitin after the assignment deadline, including both day and time.

There is also a penalty for assignments which are below or above the word or line limits. After 10% 'wiggle room' either side of the stated limit for each assignment, work is penalised up to 10% per 200 words or pro-rata for line counts for poetry.

Student Support

Macquarie University provides a range of support services for students. For details, visit <http://students.mq.edu.au/support/>

Learning Skills

Learning Skills (mq.edu.au/learningskills) provides academic writing resources and study strategies to improve your marks and take control of your study.

- [Workshops](#)
- [StudyWise](#)
- [Academic Integrity Module for Students](#)
- [Ask a Learning Adviser](#)

Student Services and Support

Students with a disability are encouraged to contact the [Disability Service](#) who can provide appropriate help with any issues that arise during their studies.

Student Enquiries

For all student enquiries, visit Student Connect at ask.mq.edu.au

IT Help

For help with University computer systems and technology, visit <http://informatics.mq.edu.au/help/>.

When using the University's IT, you must adhere to the [Acceptable Use Policy](#). The policy applies to all who connect to the MQ network including students.

Graduate Capabilities

Capable of Professional and Personal Judgement and Initiative

We want our graduates to have emotional intelligence and sound interpersonal skills and to demonstrate discernment and common sense in their professional and personal judgement. They will exercise initiative as needed. They will be capable of risk assessment, and be able to handle ambiguity and complexity, enabling them to be adaptable in diverse and changing environments.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Identify key theoretical and practical concepts and integrate them in creative writing
- Compose several pieces of conceptually developed creative writing
- Employ written and language skills in different creative writing contexts.
- Reflect on student's own creative writing processes.
- Appraise and critique students' writing in workshop environment.

Assessment tasks

- Assignment 1
- Assignment 2
- Participation
- Assignment 3

Commitment to Continuous Learning

Our graduates will have enquiring minds and a literate curiosity which will lead them to pursue knowledge for its own sake. They will continue to pursue learning in their careers and as they participate in the world. They will be capable of reflecting on their experiences and relationships with others and the environment, learning from them, and growing - personally, professionally and socially.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Compose several pieces of conceptually developed creative writing
- Employ written and language skills in different creative writing contexts.
- Reflect on student's own creative writing processes.

Assessment tasks

- Assignment 1
- Assignment 2

- Participation
- Assignment 3

Discipline Specific Knowledge and Skills

Our graduates will take with them the intellectual development, depth and breadth of knowledge, scholarly understanding, and specific subject content in their chosen fields to make them competent and confident in their subject or profession. They will be able to demonstrate, where relevant, professional technical competence and meet professional standards. They will be able to articulate the structure of knowledge of their discipline, be able to adapt discipline-specific knowledge to novel situations, and be able to contribute from their discipline to inter-disciplinary solutions to problems.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Identify key theoretical and practical concepts and integrate them in creative writing
- Compose several pieces of conceptually developed creative writing
- Employ written and language skills in different creative writing contexts.
- Reflect on student's own creative writing processes.
- Appraise and critique students' writing in workshop environment.

Assessment tasks

- Assignment 1
- Assignment 2
- Participation
- Assignment 3

Critical, Analytical and Integrative Thinking

We want our graduates to be capable of reasoning, questioning and analysing, and to integrate and synthesise learning and knowledge from a range of sources and environments; to be able to critique constraints, assumptions and limitations; to be able to think independently and systemically in relation to scholarly activity, in the workplace, and in the world. We want them to have a level of scientific and information technology literacy.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Identify key theoretical and practical concepts and integrate them in creative writing
- Reflect on student's own creative writing processes.
- Critique and analyse literary and theoretical texts.

Assessment tasks

- Assignment 1
- Assignment 2
- Participation
- Assignment 3

Problem Solving and Research Capability

Our graduates should be capable of researching; of analysing, and interpreting and assessing data and information in various forms; of drawing connections across fields of knowledge; and they should be able to relate their knowledge to complex situations at work or in the world, in order to diagnose and solve problems. We want them to have the confidence to take the initiative in doing so, within an awareness of their own limitations.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Identify key theoretical and practical concepts and integrate them in creative writing
- Compose several pieces of conceptually developed creative writing
- Critique and analyse literary and theoretical texts.

Assessment tasks

- Assignment 1
- Assignment 2
- Participation
- Assignment 3

Creative and Innovative

Our graduates will also be capable of creative thinking and of creating knowledge. They will be imaginative and open to experience and capable of innovation at work and in the community. We want them to be engaged in applying their critical, creative thinking.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Identify key theoretical and practical concepts and integrate them in creative writing
- Compose several pieces of conceptually developed creative writing

Assessment tasks

- Assignment 1
- Participation
- Assignment 3

Effective Communication

We want to develop in our students the ability to communicate and convey their views in forms effective with different audiences. We want our graduates to take with them the capability to read, listen, question, gather and evaluate information resources in a variety of formats, assess, write clearly, speak effectively, and to use visual communication and communication technologies as appropriate.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Identify key theoretical and practical concepts and integrate them in creative writing
- Compose several pieces of conceptually developed creative writing
- Employ written and language skills in different creative writing contexts.
- Critique and analyse literary and theoretical texts.
- Appraise and critique students' writing in workshop environment.

Assessment tasks

- Assignment 1
- Assignment 2
- Participation
- Assignment 3

Engaged and Ethical Local and Global citizens

As local citizens our graduates will be aware of indigenous perspectives and of the nation's historical context. They will be engaged with the challenges of contemporary society and with knowledge and ideas. We want our graduates to have respect for diversity, to be open-minded, sensitive to others and inclusive, and to be open to other cultures and perspectives: they should have a level of cultural literacy. Our graduates should be aware of disadvantage and social justice, and be willing to participate to help create a wiser and better society.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcome

- Appraise and critique students' writing in workshop environment.

Assessment task

- Participation

Socially and Environmentally Active and Responsible

We want our graduates to be aware of and have respect for self and others; to be able to work with others as a leader and a team player; to have a sense of connectedness with others and country; and to have a sense of mutual obligation. Our graduates should be informed and active

participants in moving society towards sustainability.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcome

- Appraise and critique students' writing in workshop environment.

Assessment task

- Participation

Changes since First Published

Date	Description
14/01/2014	The Prerequisites was updated.