MMCC8043

Writing the Real

Session 1, Weekday attendance, North Ryde 2020

Department of Media, Music, Communication and Cultural Studies

Contents

Disclaimer

Macquarie University has taken all reasonable measures to ensure the information in this publication is accurate and up-to-date. However, the information may change or become out-dated as a result of change in University policies, procedures or rules. The University reserves the right to make changes to any information in this publication without notice. Users of this publication are advised to check the website version of this publication [or the relevant faculty or department] before acting on any information in this publication.

General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff
Bridget Griffen-Foley
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Credit points
10

Prerequisites
Admission to MMediaComm or MCrInd

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description
This unit explores the fields of literary journalism and creative non-fiction, both as practice and as subject of enquiry. It combines analysis with the development of the students' own writing projects. It will consider a range of established and emerging modes including the non-fiction graphic novel, the magazine feature, the memoir, the essay and science/technology writing.

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:

ULO1: research and analyse the diverse range of methodologies and creative techniques informing production processes of literary non-fiction writing.

ULO2: synthesize and expand practical knowledge of non-fiction writing.

ULO3: analyse and evaluate the theories and contemporary debates in the field of literary non-fiction.

ULO4: demonstrate ethical conduct in relation to contemporary non-fiction writing.

Assessment Tasks

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update

Assessment details are no longer provided here as a result of changes due to the

Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

Students should consult iLearn for revised unit information.

Find out more about the Coronavirus (COVID-19) and potential impacts on staff and students

General Assessment Information

Assessment standards in this unit align with the University's grade descriptors, available at: https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policies/assessment

To apply to have your assessment re-marked, please see: http://www.mq.edu.au/pubstatic/public/download/?id=167914

Examples of relevant and related assessment tasks will be made available on iLearn and will be discussed in tutorials.

Unless a Special Consideration request has been submitted and approved, (a) a penalty for lateness will apply – two (2) marks out of 100 will be deducted per day for assignments submitted after the due date – and (b) no assignment will be accepted more than seven (7) days (including weekends) after the original submission deadline

Methods of Feedback:

- Informal: comments from tutor during tutorials; through the announcement function in iLearn; interactions with peers during tutorial activities; personal reflections on learning during the course.

- Individual: in email communication with individual students where comments are made by the tutor in response to questions related to course activities and assessments; in personal face-to-face consultations during Week 8 or as requested (either by phone or face-to-face)

- Formal: general comment and in-text comments attached to assignments marked in Turn-It-In; rubrics; reflections from peers; in-class comments from tutor in regards to assessments; marks are made available through the Gradebook function in iLearn.

Delivery and Resources

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update

Any references to on-campus delivery below may no longer be relevant due to COVID-19.

Please check here for updated delivery information: https://ask.mq.edu.au/account/pub/display/unit_status

Classes begin in week two and are held at 9am-11am at 29 Wally's Walk, tutorial room 136.

1. Essential readings are listed below. They are available via Leganto on iLearn.

   ◦ Truman Capote, *In Cold Blood*, New York: Penguin, pp. 15-17.

   ◦ Lee Gutkind, *You Can't Make This Stuff Up*, Da Capo Press 2012, pp. 32-43

   ◦ Louise Kiernan, 'Writing Complicated Stories', in *Telling True Stories: A Nonfiction*

     writers' guide, Kramer and Call (eds), New York: Penguin, pp. 145-147

   ◦ Lane Degregory 'Narrative as a Daily Habit', in *Telling True Stories: A Nonfiction writers'*

     guide, Kramer and Call (eds), New York: Penguin, pp.240-243

   ◦ Chloe Hooper, 'Consider the Lily', *The Monthly*, June 2006

   ◦ Kate Rossmanith, 'Many me', *The Monthly*, February, 2007, pp.25-27

   ◦ Kate Rossmanith 'On the Edge' *The Monthly*, August, 2008, pp. 28-30

   ◦ Helen Garner, 'At the Morgue', in *True Stories: Selected non-fiction,* Melbourne: Text

     Publishing, pp 145-153

   ◦ Helen Garner, 'In the Wings', 'In the Wings', in *Everywhere I Look*, Melbourne: Text,

     2016, pp. 218-227

   ◦ Lee Gutkind, 'Immersion', in *The Art of Creative Nonfiction*, John Wiley & Sons 1997, pp.

     99-106

   ◦ Anna Funder, *Stasiland: Stories from behind the Berlin Wall,* Melbourne: Text Publishing,

     pp.1-30

   ◦ Lee Gutkind, 'Interviewing', in *The Art of Creative Nonfiction,* John Wiley & Sons 1997,

pp. 107-116

◦ Alice Pung, 'Caveat Emptor', *The Monthly*, October 2007

◦ David Finkel, *The Good Soldiers,* Melbourne: Scribe 2009, pp.3-24

◦ Lee Gutkind, 'Inner Point of View', in *You Can't Make This Stuff Up,* Da Capo Press

2012, pp. 138-182

Unit Schedule

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update

The unit schedule/topics and any references to on-campus delivery below may no longer be relevant due to COVID-19. Please consult iLearn for latest details, and check here for updated delivery information: https://ask.mq.edu.au/account/pub/display/unit_status

A detailed unit schedule will be available on ilearn in week one. Classes take place on Tuesdays 9am -11am, 29 Wally's Walk, tutorial room 136.

Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from Policy Central (https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-central). Students should be aware of the following policies in particular with regard to Learning and Teaching:

- Academic Appeals Policy
- Academic Integrity Policy
- Academic Progression Policy
- Assessment Policy
- Fitness to Practice Procedure
- Grade Appeal Policy
- Complaint Management Procedure for Students and Members of the Public
- Special Consideration Policy *(**Note:** The Special Consideration Policy is effective from 4 December 2017 and replaces the Disruption to Studies Policy.)*

Students seeking more policy resources can visit the Student Policy Gateway (https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/student-policy-gateway). It is your one-stop-shop for the key policies you need to know about throughout your undergraduate student journey.

If you would like to see all the policies relevant to Learning and Teaching visit Policy Central (https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/p

olicy-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/study/getting-started/student-conduct

Results

Results published on platform other than eStudent, (eg. iLearn, Coursera etc.) or released directly by your Unit Convenor, are not confirmed as they are subject to final approval by the University. Once approved, final results will be sent to your student email address and will be made available in eStudent. For more information visit ask.mq.edu.au or if you are a Global MBA student contact globalmba.support@mq.edu.au

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 help you improve your marks and take control of your study.

- Getting help with your assignment
- Workshops
- StudyWise
- Academic Integrity Module

The Library provides online and face to face support to help you find and use relevant information resources.

- Subject and Research Guides
- Ask a Librarian

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

If you are a Global MBA student contact globalmba.support@mq.edu.au

IT Help

For help with University computer systems and technology, visit http://www.mq.edu.au/about_us/offices_and_units/information_technology/help/.

When using the University's IT, you must adhere to the Acceptable Use of IT Resources Policy. The policy applies to all who connect to the MQ network including students.