



ENGX3035

Novel and Novella Writing

Session 1, Online-flexible, North Ryde 2022

Department of Media, Communications, Creative Arts, Language and Literature

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

Convener

Michelle Hamadache

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Contact via email

by appointment

Credit points

10

Prerequisites

20 cp at 2000 level including ENGX2033 or ENGX233

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description

This unit introduces students to long-form narrative writing in the genre of the novel and novella. Students apply their previous learning of narrative writing technique and craft to the creation and planning of a new work, focusing on creativity and inspiration, research and planning, drafting the plot outline, developing characters, and building the story-world.

Students read and discuss novels and novellas from different genres, and engage in intensive writing practice each week, completing exercises that help them to develop the bones of their novel or novella. Students are also introduced to current industry practices and conditions. At the conclusion of this unit students will have produced the opening to a novel or novella, and a book proposal including a synopsis and an outline of the work.

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: Produce the opening of a long-form narrative, either a novel or novella, and an outline of the work.

ULO2: Practice a range of methods of improvisation and drafting that support the creative development of the novel or novella.

ULO3: Employ close reading skills and technical creative writing terms, vocabulary and narrative studies concepts to discuss and analyse craft and technique.

ULO4: Collaborate in the analysis and discussion of the work of others in writing workshops.

ULO5: Research and select potential publication or funding opportunities.

General Assessment Information

‘Please note that the University and the Faculty of Arts have launched a new assessment policy effective as of 1 July 2021. This new policy particularly affects LATE SUBMISSION OF ASSESSMENTS.

The Faculty policy in relation to late assessment submissions is as follows:

Unless a Special Consideration request has been submitted and approved, (a) a penalty for lateness will apply – 10 marks out of 100 credit will be deducted per day for assignments submitted after the due date – and (b) no assignment will be accepted seven days (incl. weekends) after the original submission deadline. No late submissions will be accepted for timed assessments – e.g. quizzes, online tests, etc.

To be very clear:

- Unless you have applied for special consideration and had your application approved, for each day your assignment is late, 10 marks will be deducted. For example, if you submit your assignment 7 days late, 70 marks will be deducted, which means you will fail that assignment.
- If your assignment is more than 7 days late (including weekends), you will get 0 marks for your assignment.

These are serious penalties that will substantially alter your final grade and even determine whether you pass or fail this unit. Please make every effort to submit your assignment by the due date.

If you find you cannot submit your assignment on time, please apply for Special Consideration through AskMQ. Make sure you read Macquarie University's policy regarding Special Consideration requests before you apply: <https://students.mq.edu.au/study/assessment-exams/special-consideration>

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due
Story collage	30%	No	23:59 on 10/04/2022

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due
Creative Work	40%	No	23:59 on 29/05/2022
Tutorial preparation, participation, and workshopping	20%	No	Ongoing
Writing exercises	10%	No	23:59 on 22/05/2022

Story collage

Assessment Type ¹: Plan

Indicative Time on Task ²: 30 hours

Due: **23:59 on 10/04/2022**

Weighting: **30%**

Collage presentation of the story, including indications of plot, character, story-world and themes.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Produce the opening of a long-form narrative, either a novel or novella, and an outline of the work.
- Practice a range of methods of improvisation and drafting that support the creative development of the novel or novella.
- Research and select potential publication or funding opportunities.

Creative Work

Assessment Type ¹: Creative work

Indicative Time on Task ²: 30 hours

Due: **23:59 on 29/05/2022**

Weighting: **40%**

Creative Work: opening 2,500 words to a novel or novella.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Produce the opening of a long-form narrative, either a novel or novella, and an outline of

the work.

- Collaborate in the analysis and discussion of the work of others in writing workshops.

Tutorial preparation, participation, and workshopping

Assessment Type ¹: Participatory task

Indicative Time on Task ²: 20 hours

Due: **Ongoing**

Weighting: **20%**

Preparation for and participation in scheduled tutorials. Workshopping of other students' creative drafts.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Practice a range of methods of improvisation and drafting that support the creative development of the novel or novella.
- Employ close reading skills and technical creative writing terms, vocabulary and narrative studies concepts to discuss and analyse craft and technique.
- Collaborate in the analysis and discussion of the work of others in writing workshops.

Writing exercises

Assessment Type ¹: Non-academic writing

Indicative Time on Task ²: 20 hours

Due: **23:59 on 22/05/2022**

Weighting: **10%**

Guided writing exercises to develop plot, character, story-world, and themes.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Practice a range of methods of improvisation and drafting that support the creative development of the novel or novella.

¹ If you need help with your assignment, please contact:

- the academic teaching staff in your unit for guidance in understanding or completing this type of assessment

- the [Writing Centre](#) for academic skills support.

² Indicative time-on-task is an estimate of the time required for completion of the assessment task and is subject to individual variation

Delivery and Resources

Lectures

Lectures begin in Week 1. Live Zoom lectures will take place on Mondays from 10am to 11am. Please consult the ENGL3035 iLearn site to access the Zoom lecture link. These lectures will be recorded and made available to students through Echo360 on the ENGL/ENGX3035 iLearn site.

Listening to the lectures is expected before participating in the weekly tutorial. Missing lectures will reduce your opportunities for learning and probably result in poor marks across the unit.

Tutorials

Depending on your mode of enrolment, internal students in ENGL3035 must participate in the weekly on-campus tutorials or via Zoom. For internal students enrolled in the Special Circumstance mode, please access the the weekly Zoom tutorial links via the ENGL3035 iLearn site.

External/OUA students enrolled in ENGX3035 will participate in the weekly tutorials via the iLearn Discussion Forums beginning in week 1.

Required text

Alan Watt, *The 90-Day Novel: Unlock the Story Within*. 90-Day Novel Press, 2014.

An e-book version is available from Booktopia.com.au, while Amazon.com.au has a paperback version.

A copy will also be available in the MQ library.

Hsu-Ming Teo, *Behind the Moon*. Allen and Unwin, 2005. This is optional as background context to the lecture in Week 7.

Any other unit reading will be accessible through the ENGL/ENGX3035 iLearn site.

Recommended texts:

Walter Mosely, *This Is The Year You Write Your Novel*. Little, Brown, 2009.

Stephen King, *On Writing: A Memoir of the Craft*. Hodder & Stoughton, 2010.

Hsu-Ming Teo, *Love and Vertigo*. Allen and Unwin, 2000. This is optional as background context to the lecture in Week 4.

Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from [Policy Central \(https://policies.mq.edu.au\)](https://policies.mq.edu.au). 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](#)
- [Assessment Procedure](#)
- [Complaints Resolution Procedure for Students and Members of the Public](#)
- [Special Consideration Policy](#)

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

To find other policies relating to Teaching and Learning, visit [Policy Central \(https://policies.mq.edu.au\)](https://policies.mq.edu.au) and use the [search tool](#).

Student Code of Conduct

Macquarie University students have a responsibility to be familiar with the Student Code of Conduct: <https://students.mq.edu.au/admin/other-resources/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

Academic Integrity

At Macquarie, we believe [academic integrity](#) – honesty, respect, trust, responsibility, fairness and courage – is at the core of learning, teaching and research. We recognise that meeting the expectations required to complete your assessments can be challenging. So, we offer you a range of resources and services to help you reach your potential, including free [online writing and maths support](#), [academic skills development](#) and [wellbeing consultations](#).

Student Support

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

The Writing Centre

The [Writing Centre](#) provides resources to develop your English language proficiency, academic writing, and communication skills.

- [Workshops](#)
- [Chat with a WriteWISE peer writing leader](#)
- [Access StudyWISE](#)
- [Upload an assignment to Studiosity](#)
- [Complete the 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

Macquarie University offers a range of [Student Support Services](#) including:

- [IT Support](#)
- [Accessibility and disability support](#) with study
- Mental health [support](#)
- [Safety support](#) to respond to bullying, harassment, sexual harassment and sexual assault
- [Social support including information about finances, tenancy and legal issues](#)

Student Enquiries

Got a question? Ask us via [AskMQ](#), or contact [Service Connect](#).

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.

Changes since First Published

Date	Description
02/02/2022	.