Fall 2015

ENGL 6161

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You are required to write three stories during the semester to be presented to the workshop. You will be responsible for distributing your work to the workshop in the class before the date it will be discussed. Distributing the stories by email, in lieu of handing out hard copies, is allowed only at the request of the recipient and/or with my approval.

Once you sign up for a date on the workshop schedule, you are committed to having the work ready. If you want to switch dates with an agreeable classmate, that’s fine, as long as this change is announced to the class and recorded on everyone’s schedule. If you can’t find anyone to take your date, you are stuck with it. Consider the dates on the schedule carefully before you sign up.

We will have a brief conference to discuss each story you workshop. These appointments will be set up at mutually convenient times.

You must do a thoughtful, thorough, type-written critique of each student piece discussed in workshop, excepting your own, of course. These will be handed in to me. I will read them carefully and then pass them on, unmarked, to the writer whose story was critiqued. In addition, you will be expected to carefully annotate each story you read, sign it, and give it directly to the author after workshop discussion.

In workshop you should comment on the story being discussed and on the ideas and observations of your classmates.

You are expected to attend every class.

Writing stories, critiquing stories, and discussing stories are the fundamental requirements of the course and must be met to earn a passing grade. Your final grade will reflect the caliber of your creative work, your critiques, and your participation in workshop discussions.

**Your critiques and annotated manuscripts are your tickets to class. No one will be allowed to participate in the workshop discussions without them.**

There will be no final exam in the class.
Student Learning Outcomes:

1. Students will learn how to analyze the strengths and weaknesses of a piece of fiction. They will demonstrate their analytical skills by writing the required critiques, by annotating their classmates’ manuscripts, and by contributing to the classroom discussion in workshop.

2. Students will apply their analytical skills by writing and revising their own stories, three of which are required to be submitted for workshop.

3. Students will learn to evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of their own work and demonstrate this skill in a minimum of three required conferences with the instructor over the course of the semester.