

CRW 1101: Fiction Writing, Sec. 4229 (B)

Summer B 2014
DAU 342
MTWRF – 4

Lee

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Office hours by appointment

Required Texts:

--*Making Shapely Fiction* by Jerome Stern
--*The Postman Always Rings Twice* by James Cain
--Stories given to you in class.

Philosophy on Writing Creatively:

“Constraints lead to creativity.”
“Profundity is exhausting a topic through drama.”

Schedule:

M (Discuss readings)
T (Lecture)
W (Writing in class)
Th (Discussions)
Friday (Write)

Meta-Schedule

Week 1: Introduction / Structure
Week 2: Story 1 (300-500 words)
Week 3: Story 2 (500-1000 words)
Week 4: Story 3: (1000-1500 words)
Week 5: Story 4: (TBD)
Week 6: FINAL STORY / READING (10 minutes/10 pages)

Writing requirements:

In addition to the stories, you will be writing short essays and critical responses to the readings.

Grades:

The default grade in this class is a B+. There are three ways to get an A, which are:

Etc:

Cellphones and computers are strongly discouraged.
Absences and lateness are punishable offen

Week 1: Intro to Structure / Emotional Journey

- M: Confessions
- T: Hempel / Emotion Wheel
- W: Group Activity
- Th: Discuss short shorts

Week 2: Context / Tolstoy's Rules on Writing

- M: Get stories. Discuss Context/Tolstoy's mantra.
- T: Workshop (6 people)
- W: Workshop (6 people)
- Th: Workshop (6 people)
- **Due on Thu:** 5 scenarios using context. Flapjacket, but for a short story. 250 words each.

Week 3: Hero's Journey / Plot

- M: Get back scenarios. Review your classmates' favorites. **Pick one to pursue.**
- T: Group Activity
- W: Writing/Group Activity
- Th: **Due:** 500-1000 word story (using the hero's journey as model)

Week 4: Writing is Revising / "Postman"

- M: Discuss "Postman Always Rings Twice"
- T: Postman structure / HJ + Emotion Wheel
- W: Group Activity / Workshop
- Th: Group Activity / Workshop

Week 5: Paris Review Interviews

- M: Paris Review: 6
- T: 6 people
- W: 6 people
- **Th: Final Stories due. 5-10 pages / 1500-2500 words**

Week 6: Final Stories / Readings

- M: Workshop
- T: Workshop
- W: Workshop
- Th: Workshop/Party