

Advanced Fiction Workshop 3110
Mondays: 4:05 PM – 7:05 PM, Turlington 2334
Instructor: Camille Bordas
Office: 4211-F
Office Hours: Mondays 2PM to 4PM by appointment
E-mail: bordas.camille@ufl.edu

Keep track of this syllabus and feel free to ask questions about it at any time.

Required Texts:

Emailed Readings—You must print emailed readings and bring them to class on the days they are to be discussed. I will email you most of the readings for the course by the end of week 1, and a few more as the semester proceeds.

Readings by Students—At the very beginning of most class meetings, two students will hand in fourteen copies of their stories: one for each member of the workshop, and one for me. If you miss class or come late, it is your responsibility to get hold of these stories. As with the emailed readings, you must bring these to class on the days we are scheduled to discuss them.

About Our Class

Discussion: Apart from in-class exercises, which I may or may not assign, workshop is 100% discussion-based. You must participate in discussion. Disagreements will arise during discussions, as they should. However, personal attacks will not be tolerated. You must conduct yourself in a manner that at all times respects the members of the workshop.

The Fiction of Others: Most weeks, you will come to class having read two student stories and one story by a published author. You must read every story at least twice. You must line-edit each student-story and write a deeply considered critique-letter to its author. I may, at any given time, ask you for a copy of your critiques. I may ask you to read them aloud during workshop.

Your Fiction: Over the course of the semester, you must turn in 2 stories. Their due-dates will appear on the calendar I will email you by the end of the week. You may not turn your stories in late. You may not email them. You must have fourteen copies with you at the beginning of class on the day they are due. If you fail to turn in on the day your work is due, you will fail the class.

IMPORTANT NOTE: We will concern ourselves with literary fiction, written for adults, rather than genre fiction (young adult or children's fiction).

All stories **MUST** be

1. 5-12 pages in length
2. typed in 12-point Times or Times New Roman font
3. double-spaced with 1-inch margins

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4. PAGE-NUMBERED
5. titled
6. by-lined
7. stapled

Errors in grammar, usage, and spelling: I expect your work to be devoid of them. If you have questions about grammar, usage or spelling, please make use of a dictionary, and/or Strunk and White's *Elements of Style*.

Laptops, Etc.:

Laptops, iPads etc. are not allowed in class. If there is a special reason why you must use a laptop or an iPad, please let me know before the course begins.

Attendance/Punctuality

You will be allowed one absence for the semester. Barring very extreme circumstances, you will automatically fail the course if you miss more than one class. If you are more than twenty minutes late to class, you will be marked absent.

Plagiarism

Will lead swiftly to failure and lots of embarrassment.

Additional Information:

Academic Honesty and Definition of Plagiarism:

Plagiarism violates the Student Honor Code and requires reporting to the Dean of Students. All students must abide by the Student Honor Code:

<https://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/>.

Student disability services:

Students with *disabilities* who are requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/), which will provide appropriate documentation to give the instructor.

Grading:

For information on UF Grading policies, see:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>

Grade Appeals:

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In 1000- and 2000-level courses, students may appeal a final grade by filling out a form available from Carla Blount, Program Assistant, in the Department office (4008 TUR). Grade appeals may result in a higher, unchanged, or lower final grade.

Course Evaluations:

Toward the end of the semester, you will receive email messages asking you to go online and evaluate this course: <https://evaluations.ufl.edu/evals/Default.aspx>

UF Reading and Writing Center:

The Reading and Writing Center at the University of Florida is an excellent resource for improving reading comprehension and writing skills. For more information, see: <http://www.at.ufl.edu/rwcenter/>

Harassment:

UF provides an educational and working environment that is free from sex discrimination and sexual harassment for its students, staff, and faculty. For more about UF policies regarding harassment, see: <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/sexual/>

Course Calendar

Week 1, January 7 – Introductions.

Week 2, January 14—To discuss: Stories by TBD

Turning in for the following week: TBD

Published work to discuss: “The School,” by Donald Barthelme, and “The Perfect Gerbil,” by George Saunders.

JANUARY 21—HOLIDAY, no class

Week 3, January 28— To discuss: Stories by TBD

Turning in for the following week: TBD

Published story to discuss: “Helping,” by Robert Stone.

Week 4, February 4- To discuss: Stories by TBD

Turning in for the following week: TBD

Published story to discuss: “The Christmas Miracle,” by Rebecca Curtis.

Week 5, February 11— To discuss: Stories by TBD

Turning in for the following week: TBD.

Published story to discuss: “Bullet in the Brain,” by Tobias Wolff.

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Week 6, February 18—To discuss: Stories by TBD
Turning in for the following week: TBD
Published story to discuss: “Exhortation,” by George Saunders.

Week 7, February 25— To discuss: Stories by TBD
Turning in for the following week: TBD
Published story to discuss: “Letter to a Funeral Parlor,” by Lydia Davis.

MARCH 4—SPRING BREAK, no class

Week 8, March 11— To discuss: Stories by TBD
Turning in for the following week: TBD
Published story to discuss: “The Moment They Were Waiting For,” by Ken Kalfus.

Week 9, March 18— To discuss: Stories by TBD
Turning in for the following week: TBD
Published story to discuss: TBD

Week 10, March 25— To discuss: Stories by TBD
Turning in for the following week: TBD
Published story to discuss: TBD

Week 11, April 1— To discuss: Stories by TBD
Turning in for the following week: TBD
Published story to discuss: TBD

Week 12, April 8— To discuss: Stories by TBD
Turning in for the following week: TBD
Published story to discuss: TBD

Week 13, April 15— To discuss: Stories by TBD
Turning in for the following week: TBD
Published story to discuss: TBD

Week 14, April 22— To discuss: Stories by TBD
Turning in for the following week: no ones (last week of semester).
Published story to discuss: TBD