

# ENGL 2013 COIN2: Exploring Creative Writing: An Introduction

[Dashboard](#) / [Courses](#) / [ENGL 2013 COIN2 Home](#) / [ENGL 2013](#) / [Syllabus](#)

## Syllabus

### Course Description

An introduction to the fundamentals of creative writing in the areas of life writing, poetry, fiction and the writing life. Students will develop their skills through writing, reading, responding, and revision.

### Instructor

Wanda Campbell was born and spent the first decade of her life in South India. She has a BA in English (UNB), an MA in Creative Writing (U of Windsor) with supervisor Alistair MacLeod, and a PhD (UWO) in Canadian Literature. She has published a novel *Hat Girl* (2013), five collections of poetry: *Kalamkari and Cordillera* (2017), *Daedalus Had a Daughter* (2011), *Grace* (2009), *Looking for Lucy* (2008), and *Sky Fishing* (1997), as well as the academic works *Literature: A Pocket Anthology* (2007) and *Hidden Rooms: Early Canadian Women Poets* (2000). Her stories and poems have appeared in literary journals and anthologies across Canada. For more about her work see <https://english.acadiau.ca/dr-wanda-campbell.html>.



#### Contact Information:

Department of English  
Acadia University  
Wolfville, Nova Scotia  
CANADA B4P 2R6

Phone: (902) 585-1503

Fax: (902) 585-1070

E-mail: [wanda.campbell@acadiau.ca](mailto:wanda.campbell@acadiau.ca)

### Course Overview

This course will take you on a journey of exploration by introducing you to the fundamental forms and techniques available to creative writers. In each module you will be exposed to the work of writers from past and present, be given clear objectives about the goals you are aiming for in order to progress in your apprenticeship as a writer, opportunities to practice specific creative skills through warm-up exercises, a lesson that explores and explains aspects of life writing, fiction, poetry and the writing life, an assignment designed to help you organize the raw material of your life into creative writing much of which will ultimately be revised for inclusion in the final portfolio, and terms and techniques that will help you both now and in future writing projects.

The overall course objectives are:

1. to introduce you to the primary genres of creative non-fiction, fiction, and poetry
2. to provide the practical information you need to make progress in these three areas
3. to give you various simple and advanced opportunities to hone your skills
4. to provide ongoing feedback on your writing efforts
5. to impress upon you the importance of re-vision
6. to explore significant aspects of the writing life

7. to provide you with strategies for carrying what you learn into life beyond this course

## Course Materials

There is no textbook for this course, though you are encouraged to read widely among the great writers of past and present. Everything you need is provided in the course modules or occasionally in links to the internet.

## Evaluation

<b>Life Writing</b> (Warm Ups 1-2, Assignment 1-2 3-2-1 Responses for Modules 1-2) <b>Due After Module 2</b>	20%
<b>Writer's Notebook</b> (Warm Ups 3-6, Assignments 3-6 3-2-1 Responses for Modules 3-6) <b>Due After Module 6</b>	30%
<b>Portfolio</b>  Introductory Material as described in Module 10.  Revised Versions of:  1. Free Verse: Souvenir 2. Free Verse: Ekphrasis 3. Formal Verse: Sonnet 4. Revised Postcard Story 5. Chronology or Story From It 6. Writer's Choice: Poem or Prose 7. 3-2-1 Responses for Modules 7 through 10  <b>Due after Module 10</b>	50%

### Assignments

The assignments are delivered to the instructor via assignment drop-boxes. Please remember to put your name, student number, course number, and assignment number on the assignment and keep a copy in the event the original is lost.

**Be sure you have received, read, and responded (through relevant re-visions) to the instructor's feedback to each submission before you submit the next one (and please integrate each cluster of assignments into a single file for submission).**

The last assignment should be received at least 4 weeks prior to the date you wish to submit the final portfolio which will be evaluated in lieu of an exam. This will allow adequate processing time.

Note files must be readable by Word.

This course does not have a final exam. Instead you will submit a final portfolio including specified introductory material and revised versions of five of the assignments you completed over the course plus your writer's choice for a total of six. The grade out of 50% for the portfolio will be added to the grade for the Life Writing and Journal (20%) and Writer's Notebook (30%) for a final grade.

# Student Handbook

You are responsible for becoming familiar with the contents of the Student Handbook. It contains important information about scheduling examinations (if applicable), applying for extensions, withdrawing from your course, ordering books, and computer and library services available to you. If you have questions about the policies outlined in the handbook (<https://courseware.acadiu.ca/openacadia/studenthandbook.html>), contact:

Open Acadia  
21 University Avenue (Rhodes Hall)  
Wolfville, NS B4P 2R6  
Phone: 1-800-565-6568  
Fax: 1-902-585-1068  
Email: [openacadia@acadiu.ca](mailto:openacadia@acadiu.ca)

## Academic Integrity

Academic integrity demands responsible use of the work of other scholars. It is compromised by academic dishonesty such as cheating and plagiarism. A student who is uncertain whether or not a course of action might constitute cheating or plagiarism should seek in advance the advice of the instructor involved.

- Cheating is copying or the use of unauthorized aids or the intentional falsification or invention of information in any academic exercise
- Plagiarism is the act of presenting the ideas or words of another as one's own. Students are required to acknowledge and document the sources of ideas that they use in their written work.
- Self-plagiarism is also a form of plagiarism. It is the presentation of the same work in more than one course without the permission of the instructors involved.
- A student who knowingly helps another to commit an act of academic dishonesty is equally guilty.
- Penalties are levied in relation to the degree of the relevant infraction. They range from requiring the student to re-do the piece of work, through failure on that piece of work, to failure in the course, and to dismissal from the university.

## Course Schedule

You have 6 months to complete this course. You may set your own schedule, but if you intend to complete the course in less than 3 months, you should let me know so that we can arrange a schedule.

Please do not leave all of your course work until a few weeks before your completion date. Although I will make every effort to accommodate your schedule within reason, I need time to grade assignments and mark the final portfolio. It is also important that you look at and learn from the feedback from each installment before submitting the next group of assignments.

### Recommended Schedule

Week 1	Module 1 Life Writing: The Raw
Week 2/3	Module 2 Life Writing: The Cooked
Week 4	Module 3 Fiction Fundamentals
Week 5/6	Module 4 Fiction: Plot / Setting
Week 7	Module 5 Fiction: Character / Point of View
Week 8	Module 6 Poetry Fundamentals
Week 9	Module 7 Poetry: Free Verse
Week 10/11	Module 8 Poetry: Formal Verse
Week 12/13	Module 9 Writing Life: Re-vision
Week 14	Module 10 Writing Life: Reaching Out Portfolio grade will be combined with midterm grade for a final result.

[Click here to return to the Module](#)