NOTE to prospective students: This syllabus is intended to provide students who are considering taking this course an idea of what they will be learning. A more detailed syllabus will be available on the course site for enrolled students and may be more current than this sample syllabus.

Course Syllabus and Schedule

WR 324
Short Story Writing

Isabelle Brock
E-mail: isabelle.brock@oregonstate.edu
Office Hours: by appointment and via email

For more information, contact: SCHOOL OF WRITING, LITERATURE AND FILM, MORE 238, 541-737-3244.
Course Information: http://liberalarts.oregonstate.edu/wlf/students/courses

Course Catalog Description:
WR 324. SHORT STORY WRITING (4).
Study and writing of the short story. (FA) (Bacc Core Course) This course is repeatable for a maximum of 8 credits. PREREQS: WR 224 [D-] and /or instructor approval required.

Baccalaureate Core Course Attributes:
Core, Skills, WR II
Liberal Arts Fine Arts Core

This course combines approximately 120 hours of instruction, online activities and assignments for 4 credits.

Schedule of Major Assignments
Please note that this schedule is subject to change.

Week 1
Introductions, Creative Exercises Assigned (due in Weeks 2, 4, and 6), Work on Week 2 Creative Exercise

Week 2
Week 2 Creative Exercise (due by Friday, midnight), “Currents” and Class Discussion 1

Week 3
Work on Week 4 Creative Exercise, “What You Pawn I Will Redeem” and Class Discussion 2

Week 4
Week 4 Creative Exercise (due by Friday, midnight), Flash Fiction Portfolio/Long Story Assigned (due for workshop Monday of Week 8), Review Flash Fictions found through the links to Wigleaf and Everyday Fiction

Week 5
Work on Week 6 Creative Exercise, Work on Flash Fiction Portfolio/Long Story (due for workshop Monday of Week 8), Vonnegut’s “Rules for Writers” and Class Discussion 3, Read and Think about Andrew Miller’s Advice on Developing Characters, Read and Think about Joe Hiland’s Thoughts on Successful Story Openings

Week 6
Guidelines for Workshops, Week 6 Creative Exercise (due by Friday, midnight), Work on Flash Fiction Portfolio/Long Story (due for workshop Monday of Week 8), Consider Zadie Smith’s Writing Rules

Week 7
Work on Flash Fiction Portfolio/Long Story (due for workshop Monday of Week 8), “Sleeping” and Class Discussion 4, Consider the Advice from George Orwell

Week 8
Flash Fiction Portfolio/Long Story (due for workshop Monday), Review the Guidelines for Workshop, Workshop (either Flash Fiction Portfolios or Long Stories)

Week 9
Workshop (continued), Revision Portfolio assigned (due Friday of Week 10), Review the Quick Tips for Publishing Flash Fiction, Visit Duotrope

Week 10
Revisions, Revision Portfolio due Friday, Final Reflection due Friday

Baccalaureate Core Outcomes
WR 324 satisfies the Writing II requirement for Bac Core. In this course, you will:

- Apply multiple theories, concepts, and techniques for creating and evaluating written communication.
- Write effectively for diverse audiences within a specific area or discipline using appropriate standards and conventions.
- Apply critical thinking to writing and writing process, including revision.

Outcomes
Additionally, in this class you will:

- Develop an understanding of the fundamental tools employed by fiction writers, including character, dialogue, point of view, narrative distance, image, and language
- Examine the characteristics of Flash Fiction, and present your own Flash Fiction for workshop, using appropriate standards and conventions OR examine the characteristics of a “full-length” story, and present your own 4-10 page story for workshop, using appropriate standards and conventions
- Become an effective and respectful critic of peer writing, one able to think critically about representation and the denoted and connoted meanings in written texts
• Interpret guidelines for submitting creative writing, and present work prepared for publishing

Grading
Creative Exercises: 3 total, submitted in Weeks 2, 4, and 6: 30%
Class Discussions: 4 total, completed in Weeks 2, 3, 5, and 7 20%
Flash Fiction Portfolio or Long Story: submitted for workshop, Monday of Week 8: 20%
Workshop (either Flash Fiction or Long Story): completed in Weeks 8 and 9: 20%
Revision Portfolio: due Friday of Week 10: 5%
Final Reflection: due Friday of Week 10: 5%

Please note that it is my policy not to accept late work.

Resources
Please email me at your own convenience to discuss your work. Those of you who are on campus can also make appointments to see me in my office hours, or visit the excellent OSU Writing Center (at 123 Waldo for those of you who are on campus). The Writing Center’s website is http://cwl.oregonstate.edu/. As part of your tuition, all E-Campus students are also enrolled in an on-line tutoring program called Net Tutor. http://wwwnettutor.com/ NetTutor is accessed through Canvas for ease of student user authentication. You may find it in the "Communication" area of your Canvas course site.

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities
Accommodations are collaborative efforts between students, faculty and Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD). Students with accommodations approved through SSD are responsible for contacting the faculty member in charge of the course prior to or during the first week of the term to discuss accommodations. Students who believe they are eligible for accommodations but who have not yet obtained approval through SSD should contact SSD immediately at 541-737-4098.

Honesty and Civility
A plagiarized paper or story will receive an F and a report will be filed with the Student Conduct and Mediation Program. Two reports at OSU can lead to suspension or expulsion.

Behaviors that are disruptive to learning will not be tolerated and will be referred to the Student Conduct and Mediation Program for disciplinary action. In keeping with federal law, behaviors that create a hostile, offensive, or intimidating environment based on gender, race, ethnicity, religion, age, disability, marital status or sexual orientation will be referred to the Affirmative Action Office.
http://oregonstate.edu/admin/stucon/achon.htm

Course Evaluation
We encourage you to engage in the course evaluation process each term – online, of course. The evaluation form will be available toward the end of each term, and Ecampus will send you instructions.
Textbook:  NOTE: For textbook accuracy, please always check the textbook list at the OSU Bookstore website. Sample syllabi may not have the most up-to-date information.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE:
If you experience computer difficulties, need help downloading a browser or plug-in, assistance logging into the course, or if you experience any errors or problems while in your online course, contact the OSU Help Desk for assistance. You can call (541) 737-3474, email osuhelpdesk@oregonstate.edu or visit the OSU Computer Helpdesk online.

- COURSE DEMO
- GETTING STARTED

COURSE SITE LOGIN INFORMATION
Information on how to login to your course site can be found HERE.

REFUND POLICY INFORMATION
Please see the Ecampus website for policy information on refunds and late fees.