

**English 594: Studies in Creative Writing: Prose Fiction (Fiction Workshop)**  
**Instructor (Fall 2017): Suzette Mayr**

**Brief Description:** English 594 is a senior course in Creative Writing, intended to offer advanced students an opportunity to work intensively on a long prose piece. Students at this level must be completely comfortable with the various practices and theories of narrative intervention, and should be prepared to work creatively and imaginatively in applying those theories to their own writing, as well as to their colleagues' work. Students are also expected to read contemporary prose and theory as part of their background work, give one oral presentation on published texts by other writers, and attend local literary events.

**Texts (pending availability):** *Three Tales* by Gustave Flaubert; *Dubliners* by James Joyce; *Annie John* by Jamaica Kincaid; *Coming Through Slaughter* by Michael Ondaatje; *Paradise and Elsewhere* by Kathy Page; *The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie* by Muriel Spark; selected essays on the writing craft.

**Application Requirements:** In order to be considered for a place in this course, potential students must submit in hardcopy to the English Department office (SS 1152, University of Calgary, Calgary, AB T2N 1N4) by August 9<sup>th</sup>, 2017:

- 1) a completed application form (on the final page of this course application description);
- 2) a 20-25 page (12-point font, double-spaced) portion of their proposed project or a selection of works that showcases the best of their writing skills. Do not exceed the 25-page limit. Put your name on a separate sheet only, not on each page of your portfolio. Keep copies of the writing you submit in case of loss, and include an SASE (self-addressed, stamped envelope) if you would like this portfolio returned; and
- 3) a 250-300-word (double-spaced) proposal outlining the long prose project the student proposes to work on during the course, and the titles and authors of TWO texts that are possible models or influences for the proposed long prose project.

Students will be selected on the basis of this initial submission. The proposed project might consist of a novella or novelette, a series of stories, a series of interconnected tales, or a prose-poem. Genre is not a rigid consideration, but the object of this course is to enable each student to realize their project in its greatest possible configuration within the limits of the Fall 2017 term.

**Pedagogy:** This class will be conducted primarily as a once-a-week workshop, with students handing in portions of their project on an ongoing basis. Students are expected to read published works as well as their classmates' writing, and to come to class prepared to discuss this writing with constructive, informed, and intelligent criticism.

Grades will be based on writing achievements, ability to critique, and on class participation and in-class presentations. At the end of the semester (December 2017), students will hand in the finished project (approximately 80-100 pages) for evaluation.

By August 16<sup>th</sup>, 2017, the English Department and the Registrar will have a list of all the students who have been accepted into this class. You will be notified via e-mail. If you have been granted permission to register, you can easily do so at that time. You should, however, register in your second-choice course to avoid disappointment if you do not gain admission to 594.

**Application, portfolio, and proposal due:** August 9<sup>th</sup>, 2017

You **MUST** fill out the application form on the following page.

**English 594: Studies in Creative Writing: Prose Fiction (Fiction Workshop)  
Application Form**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address (full): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_ Student ID# (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

List previous English courses that may relate, and course instructor:

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List all previous Creative Writing courses (including non-credit), and instructor:

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Your reasons for wishing to enroll in this course:

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Do not write in this space:

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