POINT 19 🏛 02 LOMA
NAZARENE UNIVERSITY

LJWL(es)

WRI6022/5022 – Advanced Fiction Workshop

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Fall 2023

M 4:00 pm – 6:45 pm

Bond Academic Center (BAC) 134 (the lounge)

Final Exam: Wednesday, 15 December, 4:30 pm – 7:00 pm

Instructor title and name:	Dr. Breeann Kyte Kirby
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Office location and hours:	BAC 108	by appointment

PLNU Mission

To Teach ~ To Shape ~ To Send

Point Loma Nazarene University exists to provide higher education in a vital Christian community where minds are engaged and challenged, character is modeled and formed, and service is an expression of faith. Being of Wesleyan heritage, we strive to be a learning community where grace is foundational, truth is pursued, and holiness is a way of life.

Course Description

Advanced instruction and guided workshop in writing fiction. Attention is also given to methodology in teaching fiction writing and to finding publication.

Focus for FALL 2023 will be alternative and experimental narrative structures.
Program and Course Learning Outcomes

Course Learning Outcomes

Students who complete WRI 5022/6022 will be able to:
1. Identify advanced aspects of theory, style, and structure in works of fiction;
2. Analyze fiction written by professionals and peers to determine authors' writing techniques in relationship to target audiences and genre conventions;
3. Employ advanced research techniques as necessary to meet the demands of fiction craft and content;
4. Craft stories using advanced techniques specific to genre to create descriptive and evocative language;
5. Apply advanced workshop techniques for constructive criticism of peers and in turn take criticism and use it to improve their own work;
6. Format texts in a genre-appropriate and professional manner for submission to workshop and publication;
7. Present written work to live audiences, demonstrating advanced strategies for audience engagement and oral communication.

Program Learning Outcomes

Students who complete the program will be able to:
1. Create various forms and genres of writing, evidencing artistic, literary, and stylistic merit.
2. Demonstrate advanced knowledge of the conventions and terminology of creative writing within literary texts.
3. Collaborate in editorial and publishing processes through campus publications for external audiences.
4. Perform advanced creative work to formal audiences, demonstrating strategies for audience engagement and oral communication of written work.
 5. *[For Pedagogy Concentration Only:*] Teach using composition theory and pedagogy in the composition classroom.

Required Texts and Recommended Study Resources

Alison, Jane. *Meander, Spiral, Explode: Design and Pattern in Narrative.* Catapult, 2019. ISBN: 978-1-948226-13-4

Various Canvas Resources

Course Credit Hour Information

In the interest of providing sufficient time to accomplish the stated Course Learning Outcomes, this class meets the PLNU credit hour policy for a 3-unit class delivered over 15 weeks. Specific details about how the class meets the credit hour requirement can be provided upon request.

Assessment and Grading

In-Class Work	5%
Pattern Presentation	10%
Attend Visiting Writers (3)	5%
Drafts	40%
Critique Letters	30%
Final Reading	10%

Grading Scale:

A=93-100	B-=80-82	D+=67-69
A-=92-90	C+=77-79	D=63-66
B+=87-89	C=73-76	D-=60-62
B=83-86	C-=70-72	F=0-59

Contract grading note:
A Contract = everything (100%)
B Contract = 3 drafts, ALL critique letters, final reading, pattern presentation, in-class work. (85%)
C Contract = 3 drafts, ALL critique letters, final reading, in-class work. (75%)

Sharing Work

It is important for you to practice speaking and sharing writing publicly. Respect in this course is a must. This course is a safe space. As we discuss and analyze each other's works that may address potentially volatile themes, and we will encounter many different viewpoints. Much of the work we will do in this course is cooperative. You should think of all your reading, writing, and speaking for and in course as public, not private, discourse. **By continuing in this course, you acknowledge that your work will be viewed by others in the course.**

This course will ask you to write whatever you want to write about, but do recognize that there is a line between what is appropriate and not appropriate in a classroom setting, especially with regard to what is being shared with your classmates, who may not share your values. I respect your privacy and truly believe that this class should allow you creative freedom, so all I will ask is that you use common sense with regard to what is/is not appropriate to write in an academic setting. If you are unsure/nervous or have a hunch that something might be questionable, please discuss your ideas with me in advance of bringing them to workshop.[1]

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[1] This paragraph is taken from Robbie Maakestad's syllabus.

For those of you who are already strong and confident in your opinions and abilities, be sensitive to others who are not. Sometimes take the lead in recognizing when others want to talk, asking them for their opinion and feedback. In order to be a good participant in this course, you must be sensitive to your fellow learners, recognizing them as human just as you are.

As we share our work, personal insults and comments will not be tolerated. I will ask you to leave the discussion or class if you cannot be kind. If you aren't sure how to phrase your opinion, please ask me.

For all of us, assume the best about the person speaking. Sometimes we need to hear what we are saying before we understand exactly what we are saying. Ask for clarification; respectfully disagree. The best rule to follow: **be kind.**

Incompletes and Late Assignments

All assignments are to be submitted/turned in when they are due—including assignments posted in Canvas. Incompletes will only be assigned in extremely unusual circumstances.

PLNU Spiritual Care

PLNU strives to be a place where students grow as whole persons. To this end, we provide resources for our students to encounter God and grow in their Christian faith.

If you have questions, a desire to meet with the chaplain, or if you have prayer requests, you can contact the Office of Student Life and Formation.

PLNU Copyright Policy

Point Loma Nazarene University, as a non-profit educational institution, is entitled by law to use materials protected by the US Copyright Act for classroom education. Any use of those materials outside the class may violate the law.

PLNU Academic Honesty Policy

Students should demonstrate academic honesty by doing original work and by giving appropriate credit to the ideas of others. Academic dishonesty is the act of presenting information, ideas, and/or concepts as one's own when in reality they are the results of another person's creativity and effort. A faculty member who believes a situation involving academic dishonesty has been detected may assign a failing grade for that assignment or examination, or, depending on the seriousness of the offense, for the course. Faculty should follow and students may appeal using the procedure in the university Catalog. See Graduate Academic and General Policies for definitions of kinds of academic dishonesty and for further policy information.

Artificial Intelligence (AI) Policy

If it is part of your creative process, you are allowed to use Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools (e.g, ChatGPT, iA Writer, Marmot, Botowski, etc.) in this course. However, I would like you to speak to me before submission of your draft about how you plan to use this tool in your work. Another thing to note: most publications DO NOT allow use of AI in creative works. At this current cultural moment, using AI will limit where you can publish.

Any work that utilizes AI-based tools must be clearly identified as such, including the specific tool(s) used. For example, if you use ChatGPT, you must cite ChatGPT including the version number, year, month and day of the query and the statement "Generated using OpenAI. https://chat.openai.com/."

Further, you must include with your draft the sequential prompts and methodology that you used to generate the creative piece. Failure to indicate AI as part of the work will be considered plagiarism.

It is important that you protect your colleagues' intellectual property. Critiques of your colleagues' works may not be done with the help of AI. Providing AI with samples of your colleagues' works will result in an F in this course.

PLNU Academic Accommodations Policy

PLNU is committed to providing equal opportunity for participation in all its programs, services, and activities. Students with disabilities may request course-related accommodations by contacting the Educational Access Center (EAC), located in the Bond Academic Center (EAC@pointloma.edu or 619-849-2486). Once a student's eligibility for an accommodation has been determined, the EAC will issue an academic accommodation plan ("AP") to all faculty who teach courses in which the student is enrolled each semester.

PLNU highly recommends that students speak with their professors during the first two weeks of each semester/term about the implementation of their AP in that particular course and/or if they do not wish to utilize some or all of the elements of their AP in that course.

Students who need accommodations for a disability should contact the EAC as early as possible (i.e., ideally before the beginning of the semester) to assure appropriate accommodations can be provided. It is the student's responsibility to make the first contact with the EAC.

Center for Enriching Relationships

PLNU graduate students are able to receive *free* face-to-face and telehealth counseling services through the Master of Arts in Clinical Counseling program (MACC). This service is provided by supervised therapists-in-training at the Center for Enriching Relationships. To contact the Center for Enriching Relationships, please call 619-858-3105 or visit https://www.enrichingrelationships.org/plnu-macc to submit an online request. Your inquiry

is confidential. Please note that once the form is submitted it may take up to two days to process and respond to your request.

If you need emergency assistance, please call 911 or the Access and Crisis Line at (888) 724-7240.

Language and Belonging

Point Loma Nazarene University faculty are committed to helping create a safe and hospitable learning environment for all students. As Christian scholars we are keenly aware of the power of language and believe in treating others with dignity. As such, it is important that our language be equitable, inclusive, and prejudice free. Inclusive/Bias-free language is the standard outlined by all major academic style guides, including MLA, APA, and Chicago, and it is the expected norm in university-level work. Good writing and speaking do not use unsubstantiated or irrelevant generalizations about personal qualities such as age, disability, economic class, ethnicity, marital status, parentage, political or religious beliefs, race, gender, sex, or sexual orientation. Inclusive language also avoids using stereotypes or terminology that demeans persons or groups based on age, disability, class, ethnicity, gender, race, language, or national origin. Respectful use of language is particularly important when referring to those outside of the religious and lifestyle commitments of those in the PLNU community. By working toward precision and clarity of language, we mark ourselves as serious and respectful scholars, and we model the Christ-like quality of hospitality.

You may report an incident(s) using the [Bias Incident Reporting Form](#).

Sexual Misconduct and Discrimination

In support of a safe learning environment, if you (or someone you know) have experienced any form of sexual discrimination or misconduct, including sexual assault, dating or domestic violence, or stalking, know that accommodations and resources are available through the Title IX Office at [pointloma.edu/Title-IX](#). Please be aware that under Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, faculty and staff are required to disclose information about such misconduct to the Title IX Office.

If you wish to speak to a confidential employee who does not have this reporting responsibility, you can contact Counseling Services at [counselingservices@pointloma.edu](#) or find a list of campus pastors at [pointloma.edu/title-ix](#).

PLNU Attendance and Participation Policy

Regular and punctual attendance at all class sessions is considered essential to optimum academic achievement. Therefore, regular attendance and participation in each course are minimal requirements.

If the student is absent for more than 10 percent of class sessions, the faculty member will issue a written warning of de-enrollment. If the absences exceed 20 percent, the student may be de-enrolled without notice until the university withdrawal date or, after that date, receive an "F" grade.

Students who anticipate being absent for an entire week of a course should contact the instructor in advance for approval and make arrangements to complete the required coursework and/or alternative assignments assigned at the discretion of the instructor. Acceptance of late work is at the discretion of the instructor and does not waive attendance requirements.

Refer to Academic Policies for additional detail.

For synchronous courses which have specific scheduled meeting times (including in-person, hybrid, and synchronous online courses), absences are counted from the first official meeting of the class regardless of the date of the student's enrollment. For courses with specific attendance requirements, those requirements are outlined in the course syllabus.

Use of Technology

In order to be successful in the this learning environment, you'll need to meet the minimum technology and system requirements; please refer to the *Technology and System Requirements* information.

Problems with technology do not relieve you of the responsibility of participating, turning in your assignments, or completing your class work.

Assignments At-A-Glance

The course summary below lists our assignments and their due dates. To sign up for workshop dates go here. To sign up for pattern presentation, go here.

Drafts and materials for Pattern Presentations are due 1 WEEK before the day you've signed up.

Critique letters are due the day we workshop that person.

Week 1
28 August   Syllabus
                      Canvas Reading TBD (will be emailed out a week before class)

Week 2
4 September   No Class – Labor Day
                      DUE: Sign up for Pattern Presentations and Workshop
                            (if you are presenting or being workshopped 18 September, your
                            materials are due 11 September)

Week 3
11 September   MSE p. 3 – 67
                      DUE: Workshop drafts (ALL any fiction you have written)
                      DUE: Pattern Presentation Materials

Week 4
18 September   Workshop/Presentations
                      DUE: Workshop drafts (ALL any fiction you have written)
                      DUE: Critique letters
                      DUE: Pattern Presentation Materials

Week 5
25 September   Workshop/Presentations
                      DUE: Workshop drafts (ALL any fiction you have written)
                      DUE: Critique letters
                      DUE: Pattern Presentation Materials

28 September   ATTEND: Tickets Required for 7pm Event
                            25th Anniversary of Poetry Day
                            Featuring San Diego Poet Laureate, Jason Magabo Perez
                            Optional Reading: *This is for the Mostless*
                            3pm MAW Workshop, Fermanian
                            7-9pm, Poetry Day reading; Crill Recital Hall

Week 6
2 October
Workshop/Presentations
DUE: Workshop drafts (fiction with new pattern)
DUE: Critique letters
DUE: Pattern Presentation Materials

Week 7
9 October
Workshop/Presentations
DUE: Workshop drafts (fiction with new pattern)
DUE: Critique letters

Week 8
16 October
Workshop
Guest: Ron Salisbury
DUE: Workshop drafts (fiction with new pattern)
DUE: Critique letters
DUE: Pattern Presentation Materials

18 October
ATTEND: Tickets Required for 7pm Event
Fiction: Eliza Jane Brazier
Optional Reading: *Girls and Their Horses*, 2023
Good, Rich People, 2022
If I Disappear, 2021
3pm MAW Workshop (open to PLNU folks), Fermanian
7pm, Reading (PLNU folks, donation encouraged; ticketed for non-PLNU folks), Fermanian

Week 9
23 October
Workshop/Presentations
DUE: Workshop drafts (ALL fiction with new pattern)
DUE: Critique letters
DUE: Pattern Presentation Materials

Week 10
30 October
Workshop/Presentations
DUE: Workshop drafts (ALL fiction with new pattern)
DUE: Critique letters
DUE: Pattern Presentation Materials

Week 11
6 November   Workshop/Presentations
DUE: Workshop drafts (ALL fiction with new pattern)
DUE: Critique letters
DUE: Pattern Presentation Materials

9 November   ATTEND: [Tickets Required for 7pm Event](#)
CNF: Davon Loeb
Optional Reading: *The In-Betweens: A Lyrical Memoir,* 2023
3pm MAW Workshop (open to PLNU folks), Fermanian
7pm, Reading (PLNU folks, donation encouraged; ticketed for non-PLNU folks), Fermanian

Week 12
13 November   Workshop/Presentations
DUE: Workshop drafts (fiction with new pattern OR if done 3 already, HEAVY revision of previous story)
DUE: Critique letters

Week 13   **Thanksgiving**
20 November   TBD

Week 14
27 November   Workshop
DUE: Workshop drafts **DUE:** Workshop drafts (fiction with new pattern OR if done 3 already, HEAVY revision of previous story)
DUE: Critique letters

Week 15
4 December   Workshop
DUE: Critique letters

Week 16   **Finals Week**
13 December   4:30 – 7pm