

## **COURSE SPECIFICATION DOCUMENT**

**NOTE:** ANY CHANGES TO A CSD MUST GO THROUGH ALL OF THE RELEVANT APPROVAL PROCESSES, INCLUDING LTPC.

<b>Academic School/Department:</b>	Communications, Arts and Social Sciences
<b>Programme:</b>	Combined Studies
<b>FHEQ Level:</b>	5
<b>Course Title:</b>	Reading and Writing of Short Stories
<b>Course Code:</b>	LIT 5415
<b>Course Leader:</b>	Sara Chetin
<b>Student Engagement Hours:</b>	120
Lectures:	22.5
Seminar / Tutorials:	22.5
Independent / Guided Learning :	75
<b>Semester:</b>	Fall/Spring
<b>Credits:</b>	12 UK CATS credits 6 ECTS credits 3 US credits

### **Course Description:**

This course introduces students to a wide range of twentieth century short stories predominantly from Europe and America. It provides a critical framework for the understanding and analysis of short fiction and introduces students to key authors and themes of the form. The approach is through creative writing practice: classes incorporate a writer's workshop, in which students explore the short story form in detail, through reading and writing, and students are encouraged to read *as writers*. Students regularly submit their work-in-progress for critical consideration by the instructor and other members of the class.

**Prerequisites:** ARW 4195

### **Aims and Objectives:**

- To become active and perceptive readers of the multifaceted nature of short story writing;
- To critically engage with key authors, concepts, styles and themes of the short story;
- To apply a variety of storytelling techniques to the creative process of writing;

- To develop the necessary analytical skills involved in the writing development process including regular self-assessment, group work and feedback reflection.

### **Programme Outcomes :**

5A(ii); 5B(i); 5C(ii, iii); 5D(ii)

A detailed list of the programme outcomes are found in the Programme Specification. This is located at the Departmental/Schools page of the portal.

### **Learning Outcomes:**

- Students should demonstrate a critical engagement with the key concepts, styles and themes related to a variety of short story writers;
- Students should explore their own experience of the active reading and literary criticism of short stories and generate an awareness of the development and various characteristics, traditions and possibilities of the literary short story form;
- Students should demonstrate their understanding of how specific short story techniques and knowledge of the genre can be applied to their own creative writing;
- Students should demonstrate engagement with the writing process by producing numerous drafts, responding to continual feedback and evaluating their own writing strategies.

### **Indicative Content:**

- Historical Influences and types of short stories
- Character, Point of View, Voice
- Theories of Omission/iceberg effect
- Motivation and Conflict
- Epiphany
- Use of time, flashback, pace
- Revising, Cutting, Editing

### **Assessment:**

This course conforms to the Richmond University Standard Assessment Norms approved at Academic Council on 28 June 2012.

### **Teaching Methodology:**

Course meetings consist of interactive lectures and close readings of assigned readings, small group discussions and reflection activities. Students engage in weekly writing exercises and then shape their work outside of class, submitting it the following week for peer and instructor review. Students work towards developing a portfolio of short stories. Student work is assessed through a variety of ways using both formative and summative approaches. Feedback is intended to help improve student approach to learning and achieve better results.

