English 622 will be an introductory creative writing course focusing on the study of the history of the short story, elements of fiction, and the production of original work for critique during class. The reading will involve traditional, modern, and post-modern stories. The traditional stories will be online with Hemingway and Coover as the examples of modern and post-modern. The literary critic James Wood's book, How Fiction Works, will be used throughout the semester as a reference. The grade for the semester will be based on class participation (the critiques for workshop sessions will be based on the reviewing students' written critiques as stepping stones for the discussion). It will also be based on reports to the class from topics originating in the Wood book. But the original fiction and its mandatory revision will provide the majority of the semester's grade.

1. Participation (through written and oral critiques): 25%
2. Oral report of 15 minutes with written outline: 25%
3. Production, workshopping, and revision of original fiction (a minimum of 40 pages / 10,000 words: should be two or more final stories presented): 50%

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