

English 3903: Intermediate Fiction Writing

Professor: Becky Hagenston

Required Texts and Materials

Shaping the Story, Mark Baechtel

Cheating at Canasta, William Trevor

Wishing Well, Gerry LaFemina (visiting writer for fall 2009)

Notebook for in-class writing

Large envelope or manila folder for turning in drafts of story

Students will also be required to bring copies of their work to class

Suggested Text

The Versus Anthology, ed. By Josh Woods

This is a course for students who have taken EN 3303, Introduction to Creative Writing, and would like more practice and experience with the craft of fiction writing. We will be reading contemporary fiction that illustrates the skills necessary to write successful short stories. We will be focusing on techniques such as setting, dialogue, characterization, plot, and revision. Each student will workshop at least one short exercise as well as the short story.

In this class, you will *not* be writing genre fiction (sci fi, fantasy, horror, romance, historical fiction, children's stories, etc.) but about realistic characters in a contemporary setting.

Requirements:

You will be writing progressive short exercises that you will be using to build a complete short story of no fewer than 10 pages.

8 short exercises	25%
typed critiques of student stories	15%
quizzes	10%
craft paper (3-5 pages)	10%
10+ pg short story & revision	20%
revision paper (3-5 pages)	10%
attendance & participation	10%
	100%