

Course Outline

Code: CMN260 Title: Writing the Short Story

School: Creative Industries
Teaching Session: Semester 2
Year: 2020
Course Coordinator: Dr Paul Williams, pwillia3@usc.edu.au
Course Moderator: Dr Ginna Brock, gbrock@usc.edu.au

Please go to the USC website for up to date information on the teaching sessions and campuses where this course is usually offered.

1. What is this course about?

1.1 Description

In this course you will read both canonical and contemporary short stories in order to fully understand the practice of writing a short story. You will write and present your own original short story and enrich your creative practice through weekly critical reflection and discussion

1.2 Field trips, WIL placements or activities required by professional accreditation

Activity	Details
Nil	Nil

2. What level is this course?

200 level Developing – Applying broad and/or deep knowledge and skills to new contexts. May require pre-requisites and introductory level knowledge/skills. Normally undertaken in the 2nd or 3rd year of an undergraduate program.

3. What is the unit value of this course?

12 units

4. How does this course contribute to my learning?

Specific Learning Outcomes	Assessment tasks	Graduate Qualities or Professional Standards mapping
On successful completion of this course, you should be able to:	You will be assessed on the learning outcomes in task/s:	Completing these tasks successfully will contribute to:
Critically analyse and reflect upon creative practices in relation to the short story	1 and 2	Creative and critical thinkers. Engaged.
Develop original ideas and produce creative artefacts which respond to contemporary and canonical short stories in alignment with publishing industry standards.	1 and 2	Knowledgeable. Empowered.

Specific Learning Outcomes On successful completion of this course, you should be able to:	Assessment tasks You will be assessed on the learning outcomes in task/s:	Graduate Qualities or Professional Standards mapping Completing these tasks successfully will contribute to:
Communicate the representation of issues in relation to social, cultural and ecological sustainability through innovative contemporary short stories.	1 and 2	Sustainability-focussed. Ethical.

5. Am I eligible to enrol in this course?

Refer to the [USC Glossary of terms](#) for definitions of “pre-requisites, co-requisites and anti-requisites”.

5.1 Enrolment restrictions

Nil

5.2 Pre-requisites

Nil

5.3 Co-requisites

Nil

5.4 Anti-requisites

Nil

5.5 Specific assumed prior knowledge and skills (where applicable)

At the commencement of this course students are assumed to have foundational knowledge of and skills in narrative writing practice and its scholarship.

6. How am I going to be assessed?

6.1 Grading scale

Standard – High Distinction (HD), Distinction (DN), Credit (CR), Pass (PS), Fail (FL)

6.2 Details of early feedback on progress

In Week 3 of this course, your work will be peer reviewed and assessed in tutorials, and oral feedback will be given by the tutor.

6.3 Assessment tasks

Task No.	Assessment Product	Individual or Group	Weighting %	What is the duration / length?	When should I submit?	Where should I submit it?
1	Activity Participation	Individual	50%	2500 words	Weeks 2-11	Discussion Board
2	Artefact - Creative, and Written Piece	Individual	50% (40% Creative; 10% written piece)	2500 words (2000 words Creative; 500 words written piece)	Friday midnight Week 13	Online Assignment Submission with Plagiarism check
			100%			

Assessment Task 1: Workshop

Goal:	The goal of this task is to develop original ideas and produce creative artefacts which respond to contemporary and canonical short stories in alignment with publishing industry standards as well as critically analyse and reflect upon creative practices in relation to the short story.
Product:	Activity Participation
Format:	Professional/Industry format. You will submit your creative work to peer and tutor scrutiny so that you can revise and redraft your creative writing to a professional standard; read and provide constructive feedback to the creative writing-in-progress of workshop participants in order to assist peers in improving their drafts to a professional standard.
Criteria:	This task will be assessed according to the level of achievement: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - effective construction of style - clear understanding of genre and audience - effective use of narrative elements such as plot, character, voice, setting, theme. - contribution of new knowledge - professionalism of presentation - representation of issues in relation to social, cultural or ecological sustainability

Assessment Task 2: Short Story

Goal:	The goal of this task is to produce a creative artefact which responds to peer and tutor feedback and demonstrates knowledge of narrative elements through the construction of a short story to a professional standard.
Product:	Artefact - Creative, and Written Piece
Format:	Professional/Industry format. You will compose a 2000 word short story and an accompanying 500 word contextualising reflection) and submit this electronically on Blackboard. This work must arise from drafts written throughout the semester in class and relate to aspects of course content. This is an individual written assessment task.
Criteria:	This task will be assessed according to the level of achievement of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - effective construction of style - clear understanding of genre and audience - effective use of narrative elements such as plot, character, voice, setting, and theme. - contribution of new knowledge - professionalism of presentation - representation of issues in relation to social, cultural or ecological sustainability

7. Directed study hours

The directed study hours listed here are a portion of the workload for this course. A 12 unit course will have total of 150 learning hours which will include directed study hours (including online if required), self-directed learning and completion of assessable tasks. Directed study hours may vary by location. Student workload is calculated at 12.5 learning hours per one unit.

Location:	Directed study hours for location*:
USC Sunshine Coast	Lecture: 1 hour Tutorial: 2 hours

**This course will be delivered via technology-enabled learning and teaching. All lectures will remain in this mode for Semester 2 2020. When government guidelines allow, students that elected on-campus study via the class selection process will be advised when on campus tutorials and practical sessions will resume.*

8. What resources do I need to undertake this course?

Please note that course information, including specific information of recommended readings, learning activities, resources, weekly readings, etc. are available on the course Blackboard site. Please log in as soon as possible.

8.1 Prescribed text(s) or course reader

All relevant readings will be provided on blackboard.

8.2 Specific requirements

Student/Tutor Consultations: The consultation is an important industry-based element of the course and it is essential that students attended their assigned consultation time to achieve an understanding of industry practices and successfully complete the course.

9. How are risks managed in this course?

Health and safety risks for this course have been assessed as low.

It is your responsibility as a student to review course material, search online, discuss with lecturers and peers, and understand the health and safety risks associated with your specific course of study. It is also your responsibility to familiarise yourself with the University's general health and safety principles by reviewing the [online Health Safety and Wellbeing training module for students](#), and following the instructions of the University staff.

10. What administrative information is relevant to this course?

10.1 Assessment: Academic Integrity

Academic integrity is the ethical standard of university participation. It ensures that students graduate as a result of proving they are competent in their discipline. This is integral in maintaining the value of academic qualifications. Each industry has expectations and standards of the skills and knowledge within that discipline and these are reflected in assessment.

Academic integrity means that you do not engage in any activity that is considered to be academic fraud; including plagiarism, collusion or outsourcing any part of any assessment item to any other person. You are expected to be honest and ethical by completing all work yourself and indicating in your work which ideas and information were developed by you and which were taken from others. You cannot provide your assessment work to others. You are also expected to provide evidence of wide and critical reading, usually by using appropriate academic references.

In order to minimise incidents of academic fraud, this course may require that some of its assessment tasks, when submitted to Blackboard, are electronically checked through SafeAssign. This software allows for text comparisons to be made between your submitted assessment item and all other work that SafeAssign has access to.

10.2 Assessment: Additional requirements

Eligibility for Supplementary Assessment

Your eligibility for supplementary assessment in a course is dependent of the following conditions applying:

- a) The final mark is in the percentage range 47% to 49.4%
- b) The course is graded using the Standard Grading scale
- c) You have not failed an assessment task in the course due to academic misconduct

10.3 Assessment: Submission penalties

Late submission of assessment tasks will be penalised at the following maximum rate:

- 5% (of the assessment task's identified value) per day for the first two days from the date identified as the due date for the assessment task.
- 10% (of the assessment task's identified value) for the third day
- 20% (of the assessment task's identified value) for the fourth day and subsequent days up to and including seven days from the date identified as the due date for the assessment task.
- A result of zero is awarded for an assessment task submitted after seven days from the date identified as the due date for the assessment task.

Weekdays and weekends are included in the calculation of days late.

To request an extension, you must contact your Course Coordinator and supply the required documentation to negotiate an outcome.

10.4 Study help

In the first instance, you should contact your tutor, then the Course Coordinator. Additional assistance is provided to all students through Academic Skills Advisers. To book an appointment or find a drop-in session go to [Student Hub](#).

Contact Student Central for further assistance: +61 7 5430 2890 or studentcentral@usc.edu.au

10.5 Wellbeing Services

Student Wellbeing Support Staff are available to assist on a wide range of personal, academic, social and psychological matters to foster positive mental health and wellbeing for your success. Student Wellbeing is comprised of professionally qualified staff in counselling, health and disability Services.

Ability Advisers ensure equal access to all aspects of university life. If your studies are affected by a disability, mental health issue, learning disorder, injury or illness, or you are a primary carer for someone with a disability, [AccessAbility Services](#) can provide assistance, advocacy and reasonable academic adjustments.

To book an appointment with either service go to [Student Hub](#), email studentwellbeing@usc.edu.au or accessability@usc.edu.au or call 07 5430 1226

10.6 Links to relevant University policy and procedures

For more information on Academic Learning & Teaching categories including:

- Assessment: Courses and Coursework Programs
- Review of Assessment and Final Grades
- Supplementary Assessment
- Administration of Central Examinations
- Deferred Examinations
- Student Academic Misconduct
- Students with a Disability

Visit the USC website:

<http://www.usc.edu.au/explore/policies-and-procedures#academic-learning-and-teaching>

10.7 General Enquiries

In person:

- **USC Sunshine Coast** - Student Central, Ground Floor, Building C, 90 Sippy Downs Drive, Sippy Downs
- **USC Moreton Bay** – Service Centre, Ground Floor, Foundation Building, Gympie Road, Petrie
- **USC SouthBank** - Student Central, Building A4 (SW1), 52 Merivale Street, South Brisbane
- **USC Gympie** - Student Central, 71 Cartwright Road, Gympie
- **USC Fraser Coast** - Student Central, Student Central, Building A, 161 Old Maryborough Rd, Hervey Bay
- **USC Caboolture** - Student Central, Level 1 Building J, Cnr Manley and Tallon Street, Caboolture

Tel: +61 7 5430 2890

Email: studentcentral@usc.edu.au