



COURSE OUTLINE

CMN116 Playing with Words : an Introduction to Creative Writing Craft

Course Coordinator: Ginna Brock (gbrock@usc.edu.au) **School:** School of Business and Creative Industries

2021 Semester 1

USC Sunshine Coast
USC Moreton Bay
USC Fraser Coast

ON CAMPUS

Most of your course is on campus but you may be able to do some components of this course online.

Online

ONLINE 1

You can do this course without coming onto campus.

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

This course introduces you to a variety of creative writing skills and consists of a series of exercises and activities designed to develop essential aspects of the creative writer's craft. A selection of readings in a range of approaches, styles and techniques will serve as models of good writing and help you reflect on your writing practice.

1.2. How will this course be delivered?

ACTIVITY	HOURS	BEGINNING WEEK	FREQUENCY
ON CAMPUS			
Lecture – 1 hour online lecture content for 12 weeks (or equivalent).	1hr	Week 1	12 times
Tutorial/Workshop – On campus tutorial/workshop for 12 weeks (or equivalent).	2hrs	Week 1	12 times
ONLINE 1			
Online – 3 hours online content for 12 weeks (or equivalent).	3hrs	Week 1	12 times

1.3. Course Topics

Epistolary forms of Writing

Performative forms of Writing

Prose forms of Writing

Narrative Techniques:

Diction, Syntax, Sentence Structure, Figurative Language

Narrative Elements

Setting, Character, Imagery, Plot

Critical Analysis and Reflection

2. What level is this course?

100 Level (Introductory)

Engaging with discipline knowledge and skills at foundational level, broad application of knowledge and skills in familiar contexts and with support. Limited or no prerequisites. Normally, associated with the first full-time study 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?

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES	GRADUATE QUALITIES
On successful completion of this course, you should be able to...	Completing these tasks successfully will contribute to you becoming...
1 Demonstrate knowledge of a range of basic narrative elements used in creative writing.	Creative and critical thinker
2 Demonstrate basic skills to critically analyse creative practices.	Knowledgeable
3 Be empowered to develop original ideas and produce creative artefacts in alignment with publishing industry standards.	Empowered
4 Acquire understanding of the representation of issues in relation to social, cultural, ecological and economic sustainability.	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. Pre-requisites

Not applicable

5.2. Co-requisites

Not applicable

5.3. Anti-requisites

Not applicable

5.4. Specific assumed prior knowledge and skills (where applicable)

You are expected to have established reading and writing skills. English language basics are not taught in this course except as elements of narrative style

6. How am I going to be assessed?

6.1. Grading Scale

Standard Grading (GRD)

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

6.2. Details of early feedback on progress

Students will receive informal feedback on their weekly tutorial activities.

6.3. Assessment tasks

DELIVERY MODE	TASK NO.	ASSESSMENT PRODUCT	INDIVIDUAL OR GROUP	WEIGHTING %	WHAT IS THE DURATION / LENGTH?	WHEN SHOULD I SUBMIT?	WHERE SHOULD I SUBMIT IT?
All	1	Artefact - Creative, and Written Piece	Individual	34%	1500 words	Week 5	Online Assignment Submission with plagiarism check and in class
All	2	Artefact - Creative, and Written Piece	Individual	33%	1500 words	Week 9	Online Assignment Submission with plagiarism check
All	3	Artefact - Creative, and Written Piece	Individual	33%	1500 words	Week 13	Online Assignment Submission with plagiarism check

All - Assessment Task 1: Tutorial Activities and Creative Artefact

GOAL:	The goal of this task is to give you an opportunity to develop your writing skills and narrative knowledge in the epistolary form of narration. This task will also provide opportunity to critically analyse creative practices and to develop original ideas that align with publishing industry standards.	
PRODUCT:	Artefact - Creative, and Written Piece	
FORMAT:	<p>Professional/industry format: You are required to read, engage with, and discuss the set material each week. Each week you will complete short creative writing exercises and critically reflect on your writing within the set narrative conventions. These creative responses will prepare you, and provide the basis for your submission.</p> <p>At the end of the epistolary form module, you will write a scene/scenario/short story in your chosen performative narrative form. The work must be thoroughly edited and professionally presented. This assessment will be submitted electronically through Blackboard. More information can be found on Blackboard.</p>	
CRITERIA:	No.	Learning Outcome assessed
	1	Demonstrates a developing competence in using basic elements used in creative writing 1
	2	Demonstrates basic skills in critically analysing creative text 2
	3	Demonstrates basic skills in reflecting on creative practices 2 4
	4	Demonstrates a fundamental knowledge in representation of social, cultural, ecological and economically sustainable issues 4
	5	Professional presentation adhering to industry standards 3

All - Assessment Task 2: tutorial Activities and Creative/Critical Artefact

GOAL:	The goal of this task is to give you an opportunity to develop your writing skills and knowledge in the prose form of narration. This task will also provide opportunity to critically analyse creative practices and to develop original ideas that align with publishing industry standards.	
PRODUCT:	Artefact - Creative, and Written Piece	
FORMAT:	Professional/industry format: You are required to read, engage with, and discuss the set material each week. Each week you will complete short creative writing exercises and critically reflect on your writing within the set narrative form. These creative responses will prepare you, and provide the basis, for your submission. At the end of the prose form module, you will write a scene/scenario/short story in your chosen prose form. The work must be thoroughly edited and professionally presented. This assessment will be submitted electronically through Blackboard. More information can be found on blackboard.	
CRITERIA:	No.	Learning Outcome assessed
	1	Demonstrates a developing competence in using basic elements used in creative writing 1
	2	Demonstrates basic skills in critically analysing creative texts 2
	3	Demonstrates a fundamental knowledge in representation of social, cultural, ecological and economically sustainable issues 4
	4	Professional presentation adhering to industry standards 3
	5	Assessment criteria are mapped to the course learning outcomes. 1 2 3 4

All - Assessment Task 3: Tutorial Activities and Creative/Critical Artefact

GOAL:	The goal of this task is to give you an opportunity to develop your writing skills and knowledge in the performative form of narration. This task will also provide opportunity to critically analyse creative practices and to develop original ideas that align with publishing industry standards.	
PRODUCT:	Artefact - Creative, and Written Piece	
FORMAT:	Professional/industry format: You are required to read, engage with, and discuss the set material each week. Each week you will complete short creative writing exercises and critically reflect on your writing within the set narrative conventions. These creative responses will prepare you, and provide the basis for your submission. At the end of the performative form module, you will write a scene/scenario/short story in your chosen performative narrative form. The work must be thoroughly edited and professionally presented. This assessment will be submitted electronically through Blackboard. More information can be found on Blackboard.	
CRITERIA:	No.	Learning Outcome assessed
	1	Demonstrates effective manipulation of basic elements used in creative writing 1
	2	Demonstrates solid critical analysis of creative practice 2
	3	Demonstrates development of original ideas 3
	4	Conform to publishing industry standards 3
	5	Demonstrates understanding of social, cultural, ecological and economic sustainable issues 4

7. Directed study hours

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.

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

Please note: 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

Please note that you need to have regular access to the resource(s) listed below. Resources may be required or recommended.

REQUIRED?	AUTHOR	YEAR	TITLE	PUBLISHER
Required	Shelley Davidow,Paul Williams	2016	Playing With Words	Palgrave Macmillan

8.2. Specific requirements

Nil

9. How are risks managed in this course?

Health and safety risks for this course have been assessed as low. It is your responsibility 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 and to familiarise yourself with the University's general health and safety principles by reviewing the [online induction training 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

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

The final mark is in the percentage range 47% to 49.4%

The course is graded using the Standard Grading scale

You have not failed an assessment task in the course due to academic misconduct.

10.3. Assessment: Submission penalties

Late submission of assessment tasks may 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 to negotiate an outcome.

10.4. Study help

For help with course-specific advice, for example what information to include in your assessment, you should first contact your tutor, then your course coordinator, if needed.

If you require additional assistance, the Learning Advisers are trained professionals who are ready to help you develop a wide range of academic skills. Visit the [Learning Advisers](#) web page for more information, or contact Student Central for further assistance: +61 7 5430 2890 or studentcentral@usc.edu.au.

10.5. Wellbeing Services

Student Wellbeing provide free and confidential counselling on a wide range of personal, academic, social and psychological matters, to foster positive mental health and wellbeing for your academic success.

To book a confidential appointment go to [Student Hub](#), email studentwellbeing@usc.edu.au or call 07 5430 1226.

10.6. AccessAbility Services

Ability Advisers ensure equal access to all aspects of university life. If your studies are affected by a disability, learning disorder mental health issue, injury or illness, or you are a primary carer for someone with a disability or who is considered frail and aged, [AccessAbility Services](#) can provide access to appropriate reasonable adjustments and practical advice about the support and facilities available to you throughout the University.

To book a confidential appointment go to [Student Hub](#), email AccessAbility@usc.edu.au or call 07 5430 2890.

10.7. 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>

10.8. 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