

MODULE DESCRIPTOR

TITLE	Writing from Life
SI MODULE CODE	77-5590-00S
CREDITS	20
LEVEL	5
JACS CODE	W800
SUBJECT GROUP	English
DEPARTMENT	Humanities
MODULE LEADER	Conor O'Callaghan

MODULE STUDY HOURS (based on 10 hours per credit)*			
Scheduled Learning and Teaching Activities	Placement (if applicable)	Independent Guided Study	Total Number of Study Hours
36	n/a	164	200

MODULE AIM

This module aims to give students an introduction to writing fact-based narrative, including personal memoir and features-length lifestyle journalism. This means discussing a range of recent texts in this genre, and analysing the specific market. Students will begin to analyse notions of the specific techniques and demands of this type of writing and where their own original work fits into that market.

MODULE LEARNING OUTCOMES

By engaging successfully with this module a student will be able to

- demonstrate an ability to understand the demands of writing for children and young adults.
- reflect critically upon their writing.
- demonstrate some understanding of a range of techniques and strategies available for successful writing in this area.

INDICATIVE CONTENT

- Articles, books that provide examples of good practice.
- Articles, books reflecting the creative writing process specific to this area.
- Group discussions on writing practice.
- Writing exercises that stimulate imaginative engagement.
- Workshops where work is critiqued by peers and tutor.
- One to one tutorials.

LEARNING, TEACHING AND ASSESSMENT - STRATEGY AND METHODS

Students will be supported in their learning, to achieve the above outcomes, in the following ways.

The module provides for one seminar per week. The seminars will introduce a wide range of relevant materials for information and evaluation. This includes books and articles that concentrate on the craft of writing for children and young adults, alongside texts that highlight good practice. The seminars typically feature presentations, group discussion, writing exercises and one-to-one tutorials. Because of the ongoing discussion in seminars and the writing challenges encountered by the students, attendance each week is crucial.

ASSESSMENT TASK INFORMATION

Task No.*	Short Description of Task	SI Code EX/CW/PR	Task Weighting %	Word Count or Exam Duration**	In-module retrieval available
1	Portfolio	CW	70%	3,000	N
2	Blog	CW	30%	1,000 words	N

FEEDBACK

Students will receive feedback on their performance in the following ways;

You will meet and talk to your tutor in seminars and one-to-one.

You will receive feedback on your writing from your tutor.

Students will provide peer support and feedback in seminars.

The final pieces of writing submitted at the end of the module will be marked and you will receive written feedback.

LEARNING RESOURCES FOR THIS MODULE (INCLUDING READING LISTS)

'Cutty, One Rock', August Kleinzahler

Fever Pitch, Nick Hornby

'Charlie Cook', Roddy Doyle

The Liar's Club, Mary Karr

I Knew I was Right, Julie Burchill

'The Distant Executioner', William Langeweische (Vanity Fair, February 2010)

'Adrift...', Nancy Jo Sales, (Vanity Fair, October 2010)

Module Documentation.

A module handbook will include module description, programme, list of assessment tasks, other criteria and tutors' contact details.

Blackboard.

This module is supported by a Blackboard site. This will provide seminar information, and electronic copies of some resources, as well as module documentation.

IT Resources.

You will be referred to a range of electronic resources including the University's databases and relevant web material.

Bibliography.

A list of primary and secondary resources will be made available on the module Blackboard site.

SECTION 2 MODULE INFORMATION FOR STAFF ONLY

MODULE DELIVERY AND ASSESSMENT MANAGEMENT INFORMATION

MODULE STATUS - INDICATE IF ANY CHANGES BEING MADE

NEW MODULE	Y
EXISTING MODULE - NO CHANGE	N
Title Change	N
Level Change	N
Credit Change	N
Assessment Pattern Change	N
Change to Delivery Pattern	N
Date the changes (or new module) will be implemented	01/2016

MODULE DELIVERY PATTERN

	Module Begins	Module Ends
Course Intake 1	January 2016	May 2016

Is timetabled contact time required for this module?	Yes
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Are any staff teaching on this module non-SHU employees?	No
If yes, please give details of the employer institution(s) below	
What proportion of the module is taught by these non-SHU staff, expressed as a percentage?	

MODULE ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

Indicate how the module will be marked	
*Overall PERCENTAGE Mark of 40%	Yes
*Overall PASS / FAIL Grade	No

SUB-TASKS

Will any sub-tasks (activities) be used as part of the assessment strategy for this module?	No
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FINAL TASK

According to the Assessment Information shown in the Module Descriptor, which task will be the LAST TASK to be taken or handed-in? (Give task number as shown in the Assessment Information Grid in Section 1 of the Descriptor)	Task No. 2
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NON-STANDARD ASSESSMENT PATTERNS

MARK 'X' IN BOX IF MODULE ASSESSMENT PATTERN IS NON STANDARD, eg ALL TASKS MUST BE PASSED AT 40%. NB: Non-standard assessment patterns are subject to faculty agreement and approval by Registry Services - see guidance. notes.	n/a
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REVISIONS

Date	Reason
June 2017	Modification DB3HU42-1617
July 2017	Operational change approved by Humanities Departmental Board 21/06/17