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UNIVERSITY OF GUELPH
COLLEGE OF ARTS
SCHOOL OF ENGLISH AND THEATRE STUDIES
Winter 2025 (MWF, 3:30-4:20)
CRWR*2000: READING AS A WRITER
0.5 Credits

Objectives: This course is designed to teach students to read literature as writers. Students will develop a culture of reading literature as a daily activity. They will analyze the construction of literary texts to improve their knowledge and application of each element of storytelling (character, point-of-view, dialogue, setting, scene, narrative arc) and to recognize how writers deploy these elements. The goal of the course is to hone aspiring writers' critical thinking and creative skills through lectures on the works studied, close readings of literary texts, and creative writing exercises, and to teach them to get more out of their reading.

Prerequisite: CRWR*1000

Learning outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this course, successful students will be able to:

- manage their time to maintain a disciplined reading schedule;
- evaluate works of prose fiction in terms of structure, image and story;
- employ a vocabulary capable of expressing their own creative decisions;
- understand extended works of prose fiction as responses to history and nation.

Required Reading:

Douglas Glover, *Attack of the Copula Spiders* (Biblioasis, 2012)

Stephen Henighan, *Blue River and Red Earth* (Cormorant Books, 2018)

Sahar Khalifeh, trans. Trevor LeGassick and Elizabeth Fernea, *Wild Thorns* (Saqi Books, 1985).

Valeria Luiselli, *Lost Children Archive* (Vintage, 2019).

*****Texts must be purchased in print format and brought to class on relevant days.*****

Method of Evaluation (subject to change according to enrollment)

Class Participation: 12%

Reading quizzes: 3 x 9% = 27%

Writing Assignments= 7% + 7% + 7% + 8% + 5% = 34%

Final Assignment: 27%