



Module Specification

A Career in Fiction

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Part 1: Information

Module title: A Career in Fiction

Module code: UPNB75-30-3

Level: Level 6

For implementation from: 2027-28

UWE credit rating: 30

ECTS credit rating: 15

College: College of Arts, Technology and Environment

School: CATE School of Arts

Partner institutions: None

Field: Linguistics

Module type: Module

Pre-requisites: None

Excluded combinations: None

Co-requisites: None

Continuing professional development: No

Professional, statutory or regulatory body requirements: None

Part 2: Description

Overview: In this module, students will learn about the professional world of fiction writing, and the skills required to build a career in the industry.

Features: Not applicable

Educational aims: Students are asked to research the conventions of modern fiction and respond through a range of writing. They will typically be assessed on both their creative outputs and the modes of presentation that they develop around

these. These requirements mirror the expectations of the fiction industry, in which the ability to create a range of content and write in different registers alongside creative output is essential to success as an author. Students will consider the importance of working to publishers' commissions and how this can be a useful adjunct to an independent creative writing practice, and, to this end, students will work on live briefs which embody this idea. This may involve producing both creative content and author-led promotional strategies to support it.

Outline syllabus: This outline syllabus should be regarded as highly indicative. It will follow Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) guidelines through ensuring that literary texts are written by a significant proportion of global majority authors, and the workshops will explore the 'flourishing' theme throughout our modules through application of the PERM criteria already described in several module specifications. Similarly, capabilities skills will be developed through close reading, development of editorial skills, and genre and market awareness. Research, collaboration and criticality will be developed.

Indicative timetable:

Introduction

Investigation (course aims, methodology and content)

Acquisition (reading)

Writing practice

Investigation (close reading and thematic response)

Application

Reflection

Formative assessment and feedback

Lecturer individual feedback

Production – assessment delivery

Assessment with feedback

Part 3: Teaching and learning methods

Teaching and learning methods: Scheduled Learning

This module is structured around two three-hour weekly sessions (if delivered in one term; single, weekly workshops, if delivered over two terms) that integrate workshops and seminars. This format provides flexibility in balancing interactive discussions, practical writing exercises, and lecturer input. The combination of these elements allows students to engage with diverse learning modes and develop critical and creative skills essential to fiction writing.

As part of the module, students will undertake writing exercises and draft outlines, and make detailed plans. Students will be expected to work both independently and collaboratively on a range of tasks. Detailed guidance on assignments, set readings, and workshop activities will be provided through the module handbook, the UWE online platform, or other appropriate channels designated by the module or programme leaders.

Independent Learning

Independent study will involve a range of activities, including creative and reflective writing exercises, assignment preparation, and further recommended reading. This work will be structured by a clear syllabus outline provided in the module handbook, with additional preparation tasks and discussion prompts available via the VLE.

Module Learning outcomes: On successful completion of this module students will achieve the following learning outcomes.

MO1 Approach challenges with a problem-solving mindset, developing innovative and effective solutions within the field of extended fiction writing.

MO2 Produce narrative fiction, presented in line with industry standards evidencing textural control, imagination and relevance.

MO3 Critically evaluate own work and creative processes, demonstrating self-awareness and a commitment to continuous improvement and professional development.

MO4 Effectively manage complex workloads, prioritise competing demands and meet deadlines, demonstrating skilled time management skills.

Hours to be allocated: 300

Contact hours:

Independent study/self-guided study = 228 hours

Face-to-face learning = 72 hours

Reading list: The reading list for this module can be accessed at readinglists.uwe.ac.uk via the following link

Part 4: Assessment

Assessment strategy: A portfolio submission including creative and reflective writing alongside industry-facing materials.

The assessment tests students' understanding of structuring a novel-length work through producing parts of that work and reflecting meaningfully on them. Students also demonstrate an ability to find a place for their work with the market through outward-facing materials. Formative feedback will be provided through one-to-one sessions, via workshops and specifically designed 'writers' rooms'.

The resit is the same as the first sit.

Assessment tasks:

Portfolio (First Sit)

Description: Portfolio - approx. 5000 words

Weighting: 100 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4

Portfolio (Resit)

Description: Portfolio - approx. 5000 words

Weighting: 100 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4

Part 5: Contributes towards

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study:

Creative and Professional Writing [Frenchay] BA (Hons) 2025-26