

Thesis

Student: Kateri Kosek
Faculty Member: Mark Sundeen

Course Number: WRT 584
Semester and Year: Spring 2009
Credit Hours: 8

Course Description:

The student will finish her thesis, a collection of creative nonfiction essays that revolve around the interaction between people and the landscape. She will work on revisions of essays already written as well as new material.

Requirements:

The thesis proposal will be completed according to the following due dates:

January 5, 2008	First draft
January 23	Revision of proposal
February 11	Final draft to instructor
February 15	Final thesis proposal due

Writing will be submitted according to the following due dates:

January 16	Revisions of 3 previously written essays
January 23	New work plus a revision (such as "Over the Fence")
February 13	New work plus a revision
March 6	New work plus two revisions, at least one of which should be a revision of new work written this semester
March 27	New work and revisions of the remaining new work written this semester
Mar. 27-Apr. 17	Final revisions as necessary
April 17	Draft of the complete thesis to the instructor
May 4	Final thesis due to MFA Coordinator

Evaluation:

The student will be evaluated based on the final product as well as the revision process demonstrated throughout the semester.

Interactions:

The student will receive written feedback on the submitted writing shortly after each due date, either through markups sent in the mail or track changes through email. In addition, the student and instructor will have phone conversations to follow up on these comments and at other times as needed.

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Thesis

Student: Mary Ann Campbell (maryanncampbell@juno.com, 203-797-1985)

Faculty Member: Lea Graham (grahamlea696@gmail.com; lea.graham@marist.edu, 845-264-4228)

Course Number: WRT584

Semester and Year: Spring 2009

Credit Hours: 4

Subtitle for Course: A Representative Collection of Poetry

Course Description: The student will write a book-length collection of poetry. She will develop this collection in consultation with Cecilia Woloch, the thesis director, and Lea Graham, the second reader. The student will complete the thesis collection in a publishable form as judged by the thesis advisor and MFA coordinator and reviewed by the MFA committee.

Requirements: The student will complete two major components for the thesis project:

- publishable-quality, book-length manuscript (at least 60 pages) of poetry
- thesis proposal, consisting of a prospectus, abstract, and bibliography

These documents will be submitted and revised according to the following schedule:

- **January 10**—Submit 20 poems, for suggestions on ordering and revising. Poems will be returned to student for revision by January 20.
- **January 23**—Submit 10 poems, plus 2 revisions. Also submit a 1000- to 1500-word prospectus in the form of an artist's statement and a bibliography in MLA format.
- **February 6**—Submit 10 poems, plus 2 revisions. Revise the prospectus and bibliography and resubmit. Accompanying this packet will be the thesis proposal form for second reader's signature.
- **February 15**—Submit the final prospectus and bibliography, along with the thesis proposal form, to the MFA Coordinator.
- **February 20**—Submit 10 poems, plus 2 revisions.
- **March 6**—Submit 10 poems, plus 2 revisions.
- **March 27**—Submit entire thesis collection along with:
 - "Fulfillment of the requirements for a Master's Thesis" form
 - Cover page
 - Copyright page
 - Abstract

- Table of Contents
 - Prospectus
 - Bibliography
- **April**—Throughout April the student will revise the thesis as necessary. All revisions will be complete by the end of the month.
 - **May 4**—Two complete copies of bound thesis due, plus six additional copies of the abstract, due to the MFA coordinator.

Evaluation: The grade for the course is determined by successful, on-time completion of the assignments as outlined above. Satisfactorily completing the minimum requirements specified above will result in a B. To achieve an A requires work beyond these minimum criteria.

Reading List:

- *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers*, Sixth Edition by Joseph Gibaldi, 2003.
- *A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations, Seventh Edition: Chicago Style for Students and Researchers* (Chicago Guides to Writing, Editing, and Publishing) by Kate L. Turabian, Wayne C. Booth, Gregory G. Colomb, and Joseph M. Williams, 2007.

Interactions: Instruction will be completed by email. Student will email assignments on or before the dates specified above. Phone interaction may also take place during the semester, if necessary.

Fourth Semester Thesis

Student: Aaliyah Miller

Faculty Members: Leslie Dallas

Course Number: WRT 584

Semester and Year: Spring 2009

Subtitle for Course: Writing Spec Scripts for Television

Course Description: In this course the student will develop her understanding of writing spec scripts for television.

Requirements:

- Read and review a variety of sample scripts for a one-hour drama and a half-hour comedy spec script.
- Research potential shows to write spec scripts. Select two shows and read spec scripts for these shows.
- Refer to reading list to help with structure, plot, and characterization on first draft of scripts. Also seek advice from thesis mentors. Write character descriptions, show synopsis, episode synopsis and step outlines for a one-hour drama and a half-hour comedy.
- Rewrite and resubmit to mentors, per rewriting notes.
- Submit thesis proposal to thesis mentors and thesis committee for approval.
- At the end of the semester the student will finish one, one-hour drama and one half-hour comedy to use as writing samples to pitch to agents and/or network television producers, and submit to screenwriting fellowship programs.
- Two thesis binders will include a thesis proposal, character descriptions, episode synopsis, and spec script/teleplay and submitted to the Thesis Committee.
- There is no internship, or practicum, or other external arrangement associated with this course.

Evaluations:

- Thesis mentors will review character descriptions, episode synopsis, step outline, all drafts of scripts and offer notes on improvements, before final spec scripts are submitted to thesis committee.
- The student will be evaluated on her ability to develop and write spec scripts/teleplays, to meet assignment deadlines, and on her ability to respond to critiques and/or script notes for revisions.
- 10 percent of her grade will be based on meeting deadlines.
- 15 percent of her grade will be based on her completion of an episode synopsis, and step outline.

- 30 percent of her grade will be based on grammar, structure (following the rules for a four-act screenplay), and plot (developing the story and characters).
- 45 percent of her grade will be based on responding critiques and/or script notes for revisions.

Reading List

1. The Complete Book of Scriptwriting
2. The TV Writers Workbook: A Creative Approach to Television Scripts
3. The Art of Dramatic Writing

Due Dates

2/6/2009	Abstract, character descriptions and episode synopsis
2/9 to 2/14/2009	Revise abstract, character descriptions, and episode synopsis for thesis proposal
2/15/2009	Submit thesis proposal
2/28/2009	Submit spec script outlines for review
3/14/09	1 st draft of comedy spec script
3/30/09	1 st draft of one-hour drama spec script
4/6 to 4/26/09	Work on revisions of spec scripts
4/26/2009	Submit materials for thesis for final review by thesis mentors
5/4/2009	Submit two thesis binders, which will include the thesis proposal, character descriptions, episode synopsis and spec script/teleplay for final grade in late May 4, 2008 (needs to arrive to Brian's attention)

Interactions

- ✓ The student will give bi-weekly reports throughout the semester via email.
- ✓ The student would like to discuss her writing development via phone or in person with thesis mentors on an as needed basis throughout the semester.