# WRT577.02: Writing in the Primary Genre III

# Spring 2024

# Contact and Course Information

**Instructor:** Ian M. Rogers (please call me Ian)

**Telephone:** 603-369-6860 (for urgent matters only)

**Email:** rogersi@wcsu.edu

**Course Meeting Days/Times:** 1-2 hour Zoom calls throughout the semester (see schedule)

**Classroom/Location:** Zoom

**Course Credit Hours:** 4

## Course Description

This third required course in the primary genre will further develop the writer’s skills. Again, with the guidance of a faculty mentor, the student will research, develop, and write a customized project or projects for the course.

In this third semester of Writing in the Primary, we’ll work toward finishing a completed (though of course imperfect) draft of the student’s entire novel in preparation for the revision stage. The student has been preparing a rough novel draft for some time now, and to bring it the rest of the way there, we’ll discuss ways to improve our writing speed and frequency, outlines and ways of tracking worldbuilding, and the power of Anne Lamott’s Shitty Rough Draft method.

As a scaffolding, and to track progress, students will submit their current novel progress five times throughout the semester.

## Course Learning Outcomes

At the end of this course, the student should have:

* Developed all or most of a finished novel draft
* Developed a more independent style of writing with self-created goals and accountability
* Achieved a faster, more consistent writing speed
* Produced draft versions of the Abstract, Summary/Synopsis, About the Author, and Bibliography required for WCSU Thesis Submission

## Books/Materials Required

Occasional online or packet readings assigned by the instructor (as needed).

# Course Expectations

## Attendance and Participation

The student will meet with the instructor over Zoom regularly throughout the semester for approximately 1-2 hours to discuss either the student’s current novel submission (see Course Schedule). If either the student or instructor needs to reschedule a meeting, plans should be made ***at least one week in advance***.

**Absences**

Students who know they will be absent in advance should makeevery attempt to reschedule Zoom meetings for a different day. Absences due to illness or other day-of issues should also be rescheduled if possible.

In the event that an absence is unavoidable, the schedule will be adjusted as necessary. **Please note that repeated absences leading to a failure to complete course requirements will result in a grade penalty**.

## Grading

Grades will given based on a combination of writing submissions, supplementary materials, and discussions with the instructor. Novel submissions will be based less on writing quality (we’re using the Shitty Rough Draft method, after all!) and more on effort, the student’s willingness to embrace writing challenges, and progress toward the final goal. Supplementary materials will be considered works in progress, and evaluated as such.

Though there are no strict page counts for writing submissions, students are expected to keep writing forward, aiming to have a completed rough draft by the end of the semester.

### Grading Breakdown

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Course Requirements | Percentage |
| Fiction Submissions | 50% |
| In-Class Discussions | 40% |
| Supplementary Materials | 10% |
| **Total:** | **100%** |

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### Letter Grades

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Letter Grade | Range |
| A | 100% to 94% |
| A- | < 94% to 90% |
| B+ | < 90% to 87% |
| B | < 87% to 84% |
| B- | < 84% to 80% |
| C+ | < 80% to 77% |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Letter Grade | Range |
| C | < 77% to 74% |
| C- | < 74% to 70% |
| D+ | < 70% to 67% |
| D | < 67% to 64% |
| D- | < 64% to 61% |
| F | < 61% to 0% |

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## Assignments

Students are required to submit the initial draft of their novel-in-progress at the beginning of the semester for evaluation by the instructor. Subsequent assignments are noted on the Course Schedule.

### Late Assignments

Students who need to submit late assignments should first email the instructor informing him of the situation. Arrangements and penalties will be determined on a case-by-case basis.

## Syllabus Modifications

This syllabus is subject to modifications by the instructor.

# Course Policies

## Students with Disabilities

AccessAbility Services engages in an interactive process with each student and reviews requests for accommodations on an individualized, case-by-case basis. Depending on the nature of the functional limitations of the student’s documented disability, he/she may be eligible for accommodations. AAS collaborates with students and their faculty to coordinate approved accommodations and services for qualified students with disabilities. If you have a documented disability for which you are or may be requesting an accommodation, you are encouraged to contact AccessAbility Services (AAS) as soon as possible. You may contact AAS by calling (203) 837-8225 (voice), (203) 837-3235 (TTY) or by emailing [aas@wcsu.edu](mailto:aas@wcsu.edu). Detailed information regarding the process to request accommodations is available on the AAS website at: [AccessAbility Services](https://www.wcsu.edu/accessability) ([www.wcsu.edu/accessability)](https://www.wcsu.edu/accessability). If your request for accommodation(s) is approved and you request accommodation letters, an accommodation letter will be emailed to faculty members. (Note: Student request for accommodations must be filed each semester and accommodations are not retroactive.)

## Department of Creative and Professional Writing Policy on Academic Honesty

The Department of Creative and Professional Writing follows the University guidelines regarding academic honesty and issues of plagiarism, which are available in the catalog on the University website at <https://www.wcsu.edu/catalogs/undergraduate/academic-services-procedures/>

In the specific context of writing, we highlight some particular problems with plagiarism. Plagiarism violations include:

* Submitting material that is not one’s own. This includes the use of any artificial intelligence tool for composing any assignment.
* Using material – words and/or ideas – directly from a source without proper citation and attribution.
* Submitting a project written for one course, past or present, as new material in another course without the explicit permission of the instructor.

**To emphasize: the use of artificial intelligence (AI) or other text generators for any assignment is prohibited in all Writing courses. Using ChatGPT or other similar tools to "get started" is a violation of this policy.**

In accordance with University policy, plagiarism on an assignment may be grounds for failing the course and the filing of an Academic Dishonesty Report, which will escalate the situation to higher administrative decisions. Plagiarism and other forms of academic dishonesty are serious academic offenses and will be treated as such in this course. Please familiarize yourself with the university’s policy on plagiarism in your academic catalogue and/or student handbook. Plagiarism is the use of another writer’s words or ideas without acknowledgment of their source. The penalty for plagiarism will be course failure and will be reported to the appropriate Dean(s) and other university officials.

We encourage students to speak with us openly and honestly regarding any questions surrounding academic honesty and plagiarism.

## The Writing Center

Experienced writers know the best way to become an even stronger writer is to *talk with other writers*. The Writing Center is a great place to do that. The Writing Center offers one-to-one consultations on writing for any class, at any stage, from brainstorming and developing outlines to writing strong sentences and documenting sources. For more information, visit the [Writing Center website](https://wcsu.edu/writingcenter) ([wcsu.edu/writingcenter](https://wcsu.edu/writingcenter)).

Withdrawal Policy  
Please be aware of the university policy regarding withdrawal. You may withdraw from the course without academic penalty through the official withdrawal deadline. After the deadline it is up to the instructor to decide if a withdrawal request should be granted without penalty. It is strongly recommended that you follow the school deadline. Note that withdrawing from a class may have a negative effect on financial aid, sports involvement, on-campus housing, and time to graduation. The department strongly recommends you consult with an advisor before withdrawing.

# Course Schedule

**NOTE: This schedule is subject to change, as the instructor may request additional materials (e.g., outlines, character summaries, worldbuilding information, etc.)**

**Pre-Semester: Submission #1**

Submit the current draft of entire novel-in-progress by **Friday, 1/12**.

**Week 1: Rough Draft Meeting #1 (1/17 – 1/21)**

Meet via Zoom to discuss Submission #1.

**Week 2: Writing (1/22 – 1/28)**

Keep working on your novel draft!

**Week 3: Writing (1/29 – 2/4)**

Keep working on your novel draft!

**Week 4: Submission #2 (2/5 – 2/11)**

Submit all new novel draft pages by **Friday, 2/9**.

**Week 5: Writing (2/12 – 2/18)**

Keep working on your novel draft!

**Week 6: Rough Draft Meeting #2 (2/19 – 2/25)**

Meet via Zoom to discuss Submission #2.

**Week 7: Writing (2/26 – 3/3)**

Keep working on your novel draft!

**Week 8: Submission #3 (3/4 – 3/10)**

Submit all new novel draft pages by **Friday, 3/8**.

**Week 9: WCSU Spring Break (3/11 – 3/17)**

Take a week off to rest and gather your thoughts.

(or, keep writing – the choice is yours!)

**Week 10: Rough Draft Meeting #3 (3/18 – 3/24)**

Meet via Zoom to discuss Submission #3.

**Week 11: Submission #4 (3/25 – 3/31)**

Submit all new novel draft pages by **Friday, 3/29**.

**Week 12: Writing (4/1 – 4/7)**

Keep working on your novel draft!

**Week 13: Rough Draft Meeting #4 (4/8 – 4/14)**

Meet via Zoom to discuss Submission #4.

**Week 14: Writing (4/15 – 4/21)**

Keep working on your novel draft!

**Week 15: Submission #5 and Supplementary Thesis Materials (4/22 – 4/28)**

Please submit the following by **Friday, 4/26**:

* All new novel draft pages.
* Rough Abstract
* Rough About the Author
* Rough Bibliography
* Rough Short Synopsis (1-3 sentences)
* Rough Long Synopsis (1-2 pages)

**Week 16: Writing (4/29 – 5/5)**

Keep working on your novel draft! (You’re almost there!!!)

**Week 17: Rough Draft Meeting #5 and Reflections (5/6 – 5/12)**

Meet via Zoom to discuss Submission #5, next semester’s plan, and final reflections.