



INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE OF  
**MODERN LETTERS**

*Te Pūtahi Tuhi Auaha o te Ao*

**CREW 256 THE IOWA WORKSHOP (POETRY STREAM)  
Summer trimester 2006/07**

**Staff**

Workshop coordinator      Zach Savich  
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**Class Times**

Workshops will take place 2-5pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays in the workshop room, International Institute of Modern Letters, 16 Waiteata Road. Please note the workshop on 6 February will take place on Wednesday 7 February instead.

**Aims and Content**

This workshop will focus on chaos and control in poetry. Through exercises in traditional and experimental forms, readings from a vast and lively range of poets, and rigorous, companionable discussion of student work, we will explore how rebellion and reason, wildness and order, passion and piety co-exist in poetry. The class should develop like a poem does—accidents leading to obsessions, delight to wisdom—as we investigate the possibilities of poetic language.

By the end of the workshop each member of the course should have further developed

- their potential as a writer
- their understanding of the craft of writing poetry
- their skills as a reader (as well as a writer) of poetry

These goals are achieved through

- regular writing exercises
- workshop presentation and discussion of written work
- production of written assessments of others' work
- consistent, steady work towards the workshop's assessment folio

**Course Materials**

The text is a course reader, in addition to the poems we produce ourselves throughout the trimester. This is available from the Student Notes Shop, ground floor of the Student Union Building.

Photocopying will be an additional expense as you will need to bring **thirteen** copies of each poem you workshop.

### **Assessment**

Assessment is based on:

Attendance and participation in workshop and discussion

Completion of readings and exercises

Written response to peer work

Revision of work

Final folio of poems (five poems) submitted at the end of the course.

Two typewritten or printed copies of your folio must be submitted by **Friday 23 February**. Two examiners (the workshop co-ordinator and one external examiner) will read each folio. After assessment is completed, one copy of your folio will be returned to you, along with the written reports of the two readers.

**Note** CREW 256 is assessed on a pass/fail basis only. If you pass the course, you will receive Grade H (Ungraded Pass).

### **The Folio**

In CREW 256, folios should consist of five revised poems. These revised poems may be revisions of in-class exercises, at-home exercises or workshopped poems. Please include all previous drafts of these poems in the folio.

### **Mandatory Course Requirements**

You must be prepared to treat CREW 256 as an ongoing endeavour. You must attend all workshops, complete the readings, and WRITE EVERY WEEK. This course is focused on the PROCESS of writing poetry – an open mind, class participation, and a willingness to experiment are far more important here than a tidy finished product. You must maintain respect for your classmates' poems and ideas, and strive to create a supportive classroom environment.

All poems should be single-spaced, unless the form of the poem indicates otherwise.

### **Workload**

It is hard to assess the workload for this course. CREW 256 is formally a 22-point undergraduate course, but many students tend to treat it as a full-time undertaking. You should certainly expect to be busy. We suggest spending an average of four hours per week for each hour of workshop time.

### **Workshops**

At workshops you will present weekly exercise work for group discussion and poems for written response and formal workshopping. Each student can expect to have three poems formally workshopped. Each student is expected to produce written commentaries on work-in-progress presented by other members of the class.

### Conferences

Towards the beginning of the workshop programme, each student will have an individual conference with the workshop convenor to discuss their writing goals. Students may arrange another conference with the convenor to discuss the contents of their final folio.

*[beginning January 16, we will workshop student poems during each class; the weekly themes below will guide our reading, discussion, and writing exercises]*

- Jan 9:            Introductions  
Poetry as Magic: Auguries and Divination  
Text: Carl Phillips, W. S. Merwin
- Jan 11:          Description  
Text: Adrienne Rich, David Wagoner
- Jan 16:          Epistolary Poems  
Text: Richard Hugo, Frank O'Hara
- Jan 18:          Metaphor, Riddle, and Metamorphosis  
Text: Andre Breton, William Butler Yeats
- Jan 23:          Foolishness and Surprise  
Text: Josh Bell, Henri Michaux, Mary Ruefle
- Jan 25:          Instruction and Staging  
Text: James Galvin, Kenneth Koch, Srikanth Reddy
- Jan 30:          Disaster, Injury, and Crisis  
Text: John Berryman, D. A. Powell, James Wright
- Feb 1:            Ritual  
Text: Jerome Rothenberg, Rosmarie Waldrop
- Feb 7:            Imitation
- Feb 8:            Translating the World into Language  
Text: Mei-Mei Berssenbrugge, Gillian Conoley, Sarah Gridley
- Feb 13:          Manifesto
- Feb 15:          Aubade
- Feb 23:          Portfolios due



### **General University policies and statutes**

Students should familiarise themselves with the University's policies and statutes, particularly the Assessment Statute, the Personal Courses of Study Statute, the Statute on Student Conduct and any statutes relating to the particular qualifications being studied; see the Victoria University Calendar available in hard copy or under 'About Victoria' on the VUW home page at [www.vuw.ac.nz](http://www.vuw.ac.nz).

### **Student and staff conduct**

The Statute on Student Conduct together with the Policy on Staff Conduct ensure that members of the University community are able to work, learn, study and participate in the academic and social aspects of the University's life in an atmosphere of safety and respect. The Statute on Student Conduct contains information on what conduct is prohibited and what steps are to be taken if there is a complaint. For information about complaint procedures under the Statute on Student Conduct, contact the Facilitator and Disputes Advisor or refer to the statute on the VUW policy website at:

[www.vuw.ac.nz/policy/studentconduct](http://www.vuw.ac.nz/policy/studentconduct)

The Policy on Staff Conduct can be found on the VUW website at:

[www.vuw.ac.nz/policy/staffconduct](http://www.vuw.ac.nz/policy/staffconduct)

### **Academic grievances**

If you have any academic problems with your course you should talk to the tutor or lecturer concerned; class representatives may be able to help you in this. If you are not satisfied with the result of that meeting, see the Head of School or the relevant Associate Dean; VUWSA Education Coordinators are available to assist in this process. If, after trying the above channels, you are still unsatisfied, formal grievance procedures can be invoked. These are set out in the Academic Grievance Policy which is published on the VUW website at:

[www.vuw.ac.nz/policy/academicgrievances](http://www.vuw.ac.nz/policy/academicgrievances)

### **Academic integrity and plagiarism**

Academic integrity is about honesty – put simply it means *no cheating*. All members of the University community are responsible for upholding academic integrity, which means staff and students are expected to behave honestly, fairly and with respect for others at all times.

Plagiarism is a form of cheating which undermines academic integrity. The University defines plagiarism as follows:

*The presentation of the work of another person or other persons as if it were one's own, whether intended or not. This includes published or unpublished work, material on the Internet and the work of other students or staff.*

It is still plagiarism even if you re-structure the material or present it in your own style or words.

*Note: It is however, perfectly acceptable to include the work of others as long as that is acknowledged by appropriate referencing.*

Plagiarism is prohibited at Victoria and is not worth the risk. Any enrolled student found guilty of plagiarism will be subject to disciplinary procedures under the Statute on Student Conduct and may be penalized severely. Consequences of being found guilty of plagiarism can include:

- an oral or written warning
- cancellation of your mark for an assessment or a fail grade for the course
- suspension from the course or the University.

Find out more about plagiarism, and how to avoid it, on the University's website:

[www.vuw.ac.nz/home/studying/plagiarism.html](http://www.vuw.ac.nz/home/studying/plagiarism.html)

### **Students with Impairments** (see Appendix 3 of the Assessment Handbook)

The University has a policy of reasonable accommodation of the needs of students with disabilities. The policy aims to give students with disabilities the same opportunity as other students to demonstrate their abilities. If you have a disability, impairment or chronic medical condition (temporary, permanent or recurring) that may impact on your ability to participate, learn and/or achieve in lectures and tutorials or in meeting the course requirements, please contact the course coordinator as early in the course as possible. Alternatively, you may wish to approach a Student Adviser from Disability Support Services (DSS) to discuss your individual needs and the available options and support on a confidential basis. DSS are located on Level 1, Robert Stout Building:

telephone: 463-6070

email: [disability@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:disability@vuw.ac.nz)

The name of your School's Disability Liaison Person is in the relevant prospectus or can be obtained from the School Office or DSS.

### **Student Support**

Staff at Victoria want students to have positive learning experiences at the University. Each faculty has a designated staff member who can either help you directly if your academic progress is causing you concern, or quickly put you in contact with someone who can. In the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences the support contact is **Dr Allison Kirkman, Murphy Building, room 407**. Assistance for specific groups is also available from the Kaiwawao Maori, Manaaki Pihipihinga or Victoria International.

In addition, the Student Services Group (email: [student-services@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:student-services@vuw.ac.nz)) is available to provide a variety of support and services. Find out more at:

[www.vuw.ac.nz/st\\_services/](http://www.vuw.ac.nz/st_services/)

VUWSA employs Education Coordinators who deal with academic problems and provide support, advice and advocacy services, as well as organising class representatives and faculty delegates. The Education Office (tel. 463-6983 or 463-

6984, email at [education@vuwsa.org.nz](mailto:education@vuwsa.org.nz)) is located on the ground floor, Student Union Building.