SHOUSE WRITING

SUMMER 2024 CLASS CATALOG

PART 1

Member Registration: June 4 General Registration: June 11

PART 2

Coming June 25th!

Sliding Scale Poetry Fiction Nonfiction Muligenre Reading

The Writing Life

What level am I?

Introductory

This is your first creative writing workshop, first writing class since high school, or first foray into a new genre or form. You're looking to try something new, kickstart your writing, and/or establish yourself in the fundamentals.

Intermediate

You have a strong understanding of writing fundamentals and are eager to deep dive into craft. You're honing your writerly identity and voice through independent projects. In workshop, you look for constructive feedback and are ready to do writing and reading outside of class.

Advanced

You've written a significant body of work and have taken it through several stages of revision. You're getting ready to publish or are in the early stage of publishing, and you're interested in refining the skills that will take you to the next level in the literary industry.

All Levels

You are any of the above and are looking to play with new possibilities.





Writing Multidimensional Characters Introductory, Intermediate / 1 session ONLINE July 6 Wednesday, 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM PT \$35 - \$125

Writing Multidimensional Characters WITHEELY

Multigenre / Online / Introductory, Intermediate / 1 session

Whether you've completed a draft of a novel or are just beginning a memoir, this three-hour webinar will help you to take your characters from cardboard cutouts to fully realized creatures ready to leap off the page. Through reading and writing exercises, you'll investigate what makes weak and strong characters and practice breathing life into your own characters. You'll walk away with three character sketches and a toolkit for making your characters come to life.

Perfect for writers struggling to flesh out their characters or to understand a particular character they've been working with.

This class includes:

- · Craft discussion & generative writing
- Optional reading and/or writing outside of class



Writing Alongside the Black Aesthetic and the Black Arts Movement with Marguerite Harrold All Levels / 1 session ONLINE July 13 Saturday, 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM PT \$35 - \$125

Writing Alongside the Black Aesthetic and the Black Arts Movement

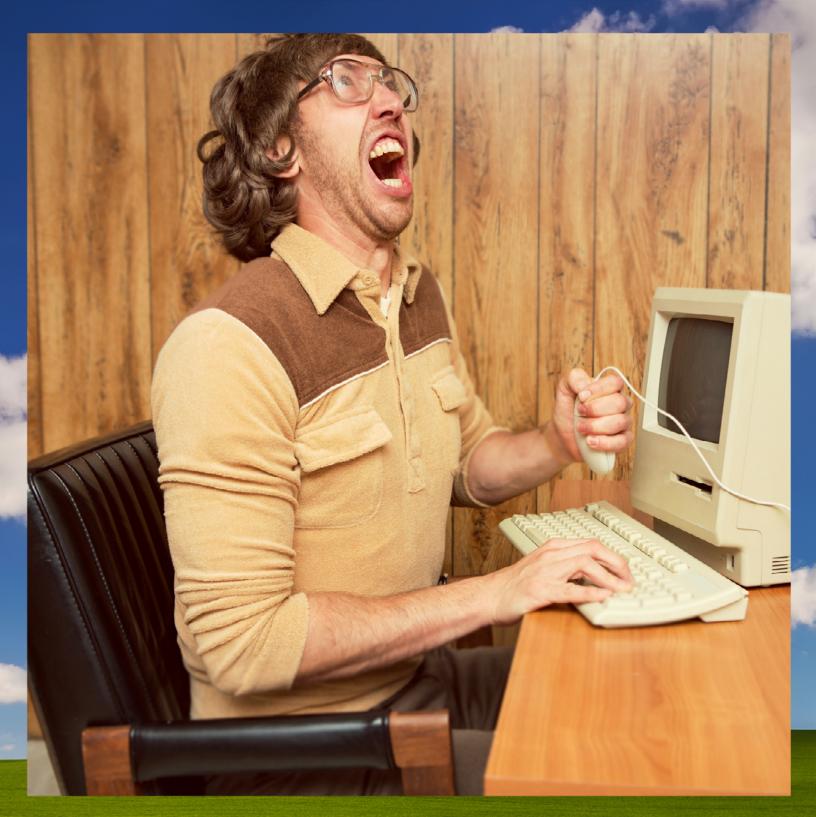
WITH MARGUERITE HARROLD

Poetry, Reading / Online / All Levels / 1 session

If you're interested in writing about community, social art, and/or social justice, this class is for you. The Black Arts Movement and the Black Aesthetic were the blueprints for current social, political, and artistic movements we see today, such as Black Lives Matter, Black Rock Coalition, Afro-Punk, Cave Canem, and more. In this three-hour seminar, learn the cultural context through which Black Aesthetics were formed, then experiment with form, sound, and image in poetic forms created from these movements. We'll read poets Amiri Baraka, Carolyn Rodgers, Justin Phillip Reed, Eve L. Ewing, Rachel Eliza Griffiths, and others, develop ideas around your own personal aesthetics, and explore new possibilities for your reading and writing practices.

This class includes:

- · Generative writing, craft discussion, & reading
- Feedback from both peers and instructor
- · Optional reading and/or writing outside of class



Introduction to Technology for Writers with Grace Bialecki All Levels / 1 session ONLINE July 20 Saturday, 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM PT \$35 - \$125

Introduction to Technology for Writers

WITH GRACE BIALECKI

The Writing Life / Online / All Levels / 1 session

If words like "Submittable," "Tracked Changes," "Google Docs," and "Scrivener" intimidate you, this class is for you! In this three-hour seminar, you will learn about and practice with commonly used writing tools such as tracked changed/edits and programs like Microsoft Word, Scrivener, and Submittable. By the time you leave this class, you'll be a pro at submitting work, receiving edits, and using word processing software to organize your writing life. You'll also come away with a better understanding about how technology fits into your own writing practice.

Perfect for writers who want to work past any tech-phobia, want to learn more about digital writing and editing tools, or who just want to organize their longform writing with nifty new tools!

This class includes:

Optional reading and/or writing outside of class



Introduction to Poetic Form with Tiana Nobile All Levels / 1 session ONLINE July 27 Saturday, 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM PT \$35 - \$125

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WITH TIANA NOBILE

Poetry / Online / All Levels / 1 session

"I love thinking about the possibility of form rather than its constraints. How can we be wild within a frame? When the blankness of the page feels intimidating, form can often help serve as an entry way into a new piece or poem." - Tiana Nobile, Hugo House instructor

Learn to approach form as a space for exploration and discovery rather than limitation. We'll read and write both traditional forms (i.e. sonnet, ghazal) and modern, experimental forms (i.e. erasure, golden shovel). We'll learn how poets like Terrance Hayes, Harryette Mullen, Tarfia Faizullah, and more, find freedom from constraint. Then, we'll write toward our own poetic possibilities using these constraints. Expect to leave with a deeper understanding of the diversity of poetic forms and a handful of new drafts.

This class includes:

- · Generative writing, class discussion, & reading
- 1-2 hours of reading and/or writing outside of class



Ver para crear con Rosario López Introductory, Intermediate / 1 session ONLINE, SPANISH August 24 Saturday, 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM PT \$23 - \$83



Spanish, Multigenre / Online / Introductory, Intermediate / 1 session

Tener una mirada particular es muy difícil, pero no imposible: es algo que se entrena. Cada escritor es "observado" por sus cosas, que le llaman; es importante aprender a verlas. En el taller, exploraremos fuentes inagotables para encontrar nuestra mirada y darle voz y luz, contarla. Es un taller para todos los niveles: para quienes quieren escribir y no saben cómo empezar, y para quienes tienen experiencia, pero no consiguen transmitir lo que desean. Es una clase práctica y dinámica, con lecturas, ejercicios de escritura y conversación.

This class includes:

- · Generative writing, workshop, & craft discussion
- Feedback from peers and instructor
- Optional reading and/or writing outside of class







Advanced Poetry Workshop with Yuki Tanaka Advanced / 10 sessions
ONLINE
July 2 - September 3
Tuesdays, 5:00 - 7:00 PT
\$608
www.hugohouse.org

Advanced Poetry Workshop

WITH YUKI TANAKA

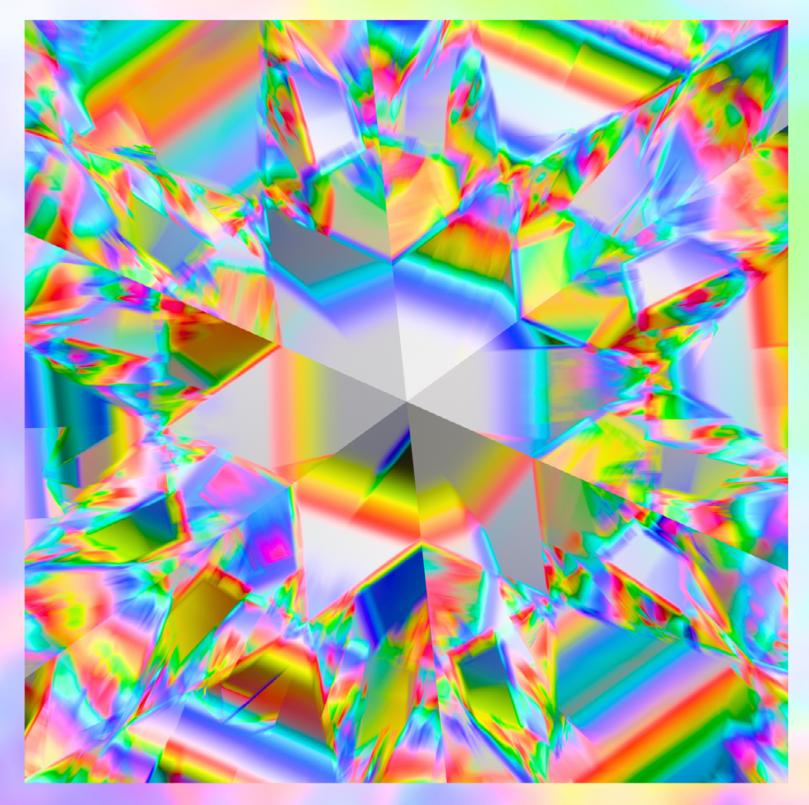
Poetry / Online / Advanced / 10 sessions

This workshop is designed to give you a better sense of how your work fits into the landscape of contemporary poetry. We'll explore the following questions: What are some of your thematic preoccupations, and how do you expand them? How is your work different from what is currently happening in the poetry scene?

This course will also broaden your understanding of poetry beyond the US model, exposing you to diverse literary traditions outside Anglophone literature. By the end of this course, you'll have refined your craft but also developed a sense of your work's place in both the poetry scene and the broader global literary tradition.

This class includes:

- Workshop, craft discussion, & reading
- Feedback from both peers and instructor
- 4+ hours of writing or reading outside of class



Poets Going Prose with Taneum Bambrick All Levels / 4 sessions ONLINE July 3 - 24 Wednesdays, 5:00 - 7:00 PT \$273.60 - \$304

Form Prose

WITH TANEUM BAMBRICK

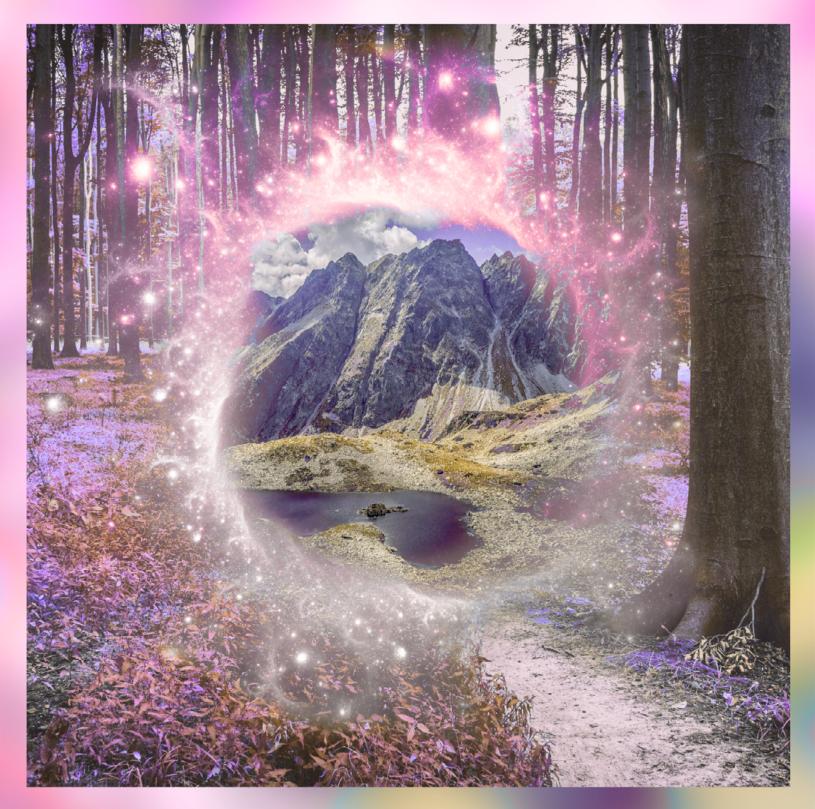
Poetry / Online / All Levels / 4 sessions

Poets make excellent prose writers, but making the leap from one genre into another can feel daunting. In this fourweek workshop, we'll make that leap from poetry to prose together. We'll approach prose writing through the lens of poetry and poetics: shape, form, syntax, and narrative scope. You'll leave with a solid grasp of prose fundamentals and techniques for using your poetry knowledge to generate powerful prose.

Perfect for poets curious about, considering, or already working towards a book-length fiction, creative nonfiction, or cross-genre prose project.

This class includes:

- Generative writing, reading, craft discussion, & workshop
- Feedback from peers and instructor
- 2-3 hours of reading or writing outside of class



Poetry & Publishing with Jeanine Walker Intermediate, Advanced / 6 sessions ONLINE July 10 - August 14 Wednesdays, 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM PT \$386

Poetry & Publishing

WITH JEANINE WALKER

Poetry / Online / Intermediate, Advanced / 6 sessions

Get your work out into the world in this generative poetry writing and publishing course. You'll learn how to research literary journals, choose the best publications for your poems, and create a sustainable tracking process for your submissions. As you familiarize yourself with journals you may want to submit to, you'll also read and write in response to an array of contemporary poets—including Jericho Brown, Franny Choi, and Solmaz Sharif. Though this is not a workshop class, you will participate in a mock editorial committee designed to simulate the behind-the-scenes work of literary journals. Expect to leave this class with a new packet of poems, a strong cover letter, and having sent at least one poem to a promising literary journal.

This class includes:

- Feedback from peers and instructor
- 1-2 hours of reading and/or writing outside of class



The Language of Flowers with Christie Valentin-Bati Intermediate / 4 sessions ONLINE July 13 to August 3 Saturdays, 10:00 - 12:00 PM PT \$273.60 - \$304

The Language Of Flowers

WITH CHRISTIE VALENTIN-BATI

Poetry / Online / Intermediate / 4 sessions

Let's move beyond the usual motifs of flowers and plants and break into something active and new.

In this generative course, explore poetry of fact, experimental lyricism, and the poetics of desire. We'll read writers like Annie Dillard, Zora Neale-Hurstone, Bahanu Kapil, Louis Zukofsky, and Jericho Brown. We'll write in response to their works and explore how approaches to nature inadvertently shape the language we use to describe our experiences, even for something as small as looking at a flower. Expect to leave with several fresh poems and new language to shape your writing.

This class includes:

- Generative writing
- Feedback from peers and instructor
- · Optional reading or writing outside of class



How to Read a Poem with Jeanine Walker All Levels / 1 session IN PERSON July 20 Saturday, 1:10 - 4:10 PM PT \$102.60 - \$114

Housto Read Hoem

WITH JEANINE WALKER

Poetry / In Person / All Levels / 1 session

Poetry is a sonic art best experienced aloud. This class will look at examples of nuanced readings by contemporary poets, including Natasha Trethewey, Laura Da', and Li-Young Lee, in a study of where and why poets place emphasis. Recognizing the power of sound and rhythm is an essential aspect of both reading and revision. You will experience the poems you see on the page more fully and understand how to bring new life to your own work, whether voicing it in solitude for the purpose of revising or reading in a public forum. "How to Read a Poem" will include a revision exercise, vocal coaching, and an invitation to share one poem aloud at the end of the class.

You'll leave this class with a better ear for sonic patterns in poetry and confidence in the best way to read your poems aloud. You'll also be invited to read your poem at a special Hugo House reading on Tuesday, July 23.







Let's Write a Ghost Story with Holly Day All Levels / 4 sessions ONLINE July 11 - August 1 Thursdays, 5:00 - 7:00 PM PT \$273.60 - \$304

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WITH HOLLY DAY

Fiction / Online / All Levels / 4 sessions

Dare to dive into the realm of ghosts, haunting, and horror in this six-session generative workshop. Through close reading and writing prompts, you'll write your own stories based on haunted houses, landscapes, objects, and even time periods. Expect to come away with four starts to your own ghost story. This class will be like a night with friends around a midnight campfire, but without any mosquitos to ruin the fun!

This class includes:

- Generative writing, workshop, & craft discussion
- Feedback from the instructor
- Optional writing and/or reading outside of class



Character Between the Lines with Rachel Sobel Intermediate / 6 sessions IN PERSON July 11 - August 22 Thursdays, 5:00 - 7:00 PM PT \$386

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WITH RACHEL SOBEL

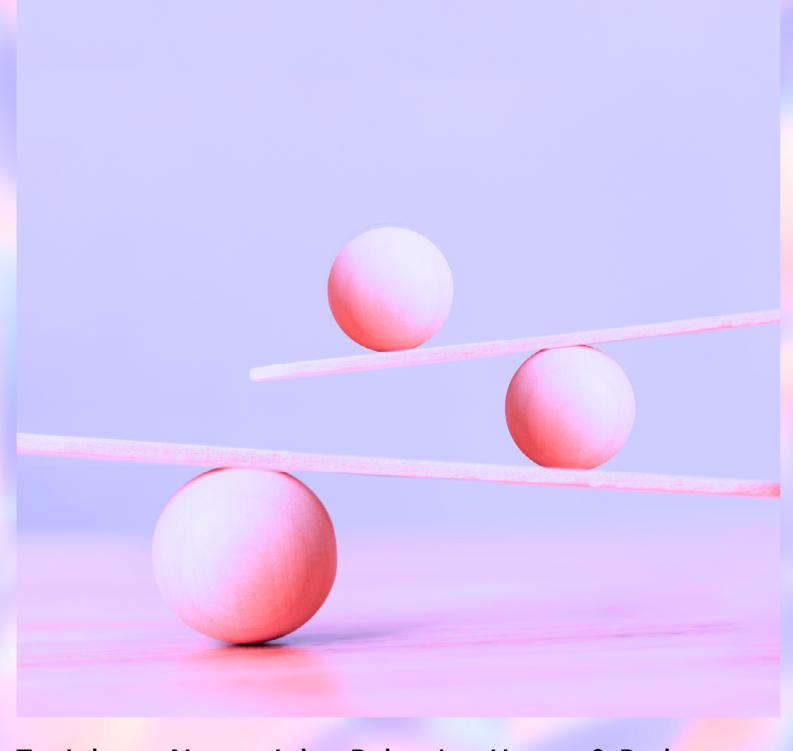
Fiction / In Person / Intermediate / 6 sessions

Samuel Delaney wrote that most character-building work happens in the reader's imagination—but how do we create characters as distinctive and fascinating as the ones we've always loved?

Learn to take character from idea to fully fleshed-out being in this generative craft workshop: you'll learn about topics including physicality, portrayal, point of view, relationships, dialogue, internality, and growth, and more, and emerge from this class with concrete, practical tools to write characters that leap from the page. Perfect for writers who love character but struggle to capture their essence and move them from page to page.

This class includes:

- Generative writing & craft discussion
- Feedback from peers and instructor
- 1-2 hours of reading and/or writing outside of class



To Joke or Not to Joke: Balancing Humor & Pathos in Narrative Prose with Beth Slattery All Levels / 1 session ONLINE July 13 Saturday, 1:10 - 4:10 PM PT \$102.60 - \$114

To Joke or Not To Joke: Balancing Humor & Pathos in First Person Narrative

WITH BETH SLATTERY

Fiction / Online / All Levels / 1 session

Finding the sweet spot between the serious and the humorous—and figuring out how to maintain that balance—can be one of the best (yet trickiest) tools to engage your readers and improve the quality of your writing. In this three-hour bootcamp, you'll investigate methods to achieve this balance: paying close attention to issues of description, character development, dialogue, voice and pacing while also learning to avoid jokey or sentimental pitfalls.

Come with a scene you'd like to work on and leave with revisions and a better idea of how to balance amusement and melancholy to hook your reader.

This class includes:

- Craft discussion & generative writing
- Optional reading and/or writing outside of class



Imagined Realities: A Speculative Fiction Survey with Evan Ramzipoor All Levels / 10 sessions ONLINE July 13 - September 14 Saturdays, 1:10 - 3:10 PM PT \$608

Imagined Realities: Speculative Fiction Survey

WITH EVAN RAMZIPOOR

Fiction / Online / All Levels / 10 sessions

Speculative fiction is all about play: bending and breaking narrative forms to create something totally new. Reading it—and writing it—makes us better writers by challenging us to reimagine our own realities.

This class is a place for us to play with our own stories. Over ten weeks, we'll read and discuss the bold innovative work of writers like Ling Ma, Jamaica Kincaid, Italo Calvino, Ursula K. Le Guin, and Franz Kafka. We'll then respond to these authors' works in our own words, generating work in and out of class. You'll come away with several starts to your own speculative fiction and a new sense of playfulness and ease towards your writing.

This class includes:

- · Reading & generative writing
- Feedback from instructor
- 1-2 hours of reading and/or writing outside of class

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Beside Ourselves with Joy with Jennifer McGaha All Levels / 4 sessions ONLINE July 13 to August 3 Saturdays, 1:10 - 3:10 PM PT \$273.60 - \$304

Seside Ourselves with Joy

WITH JENNIFER MCGAHA

Nonfiction / Online / All Levels / 4 sessions

Explore the practice of cultivating joy in this generative reading and writing workshop. We'll begin each class by reading joyful works from writers such as Ross Gay, Zadie Smith, Brian Doyle, Aimee Nezhukumatathil, Maggie Smith, Richard Chess, Robert Vivian, Mildred Barya, and others. Then, we'll move into generative writing activities, which will help us to excavate stories we've long since told ourselves and gather a deeper understanding of ourselves and others. You'll leave this workshop with several writing starts, fresh ideas for expanding and developing your work, and additional writing prompts and resources you can return to again and again.

This class includes:

- Generative writing
- Feedback from peers and instructor
- · Optional reading and/or writing outside of class



Road Narratives: Choosing Your Own Adventure with Gabriela Denise Frank Intermediate / 6 sessions ONLINE July 16 to August 20 Tuesdays, 5:00 - 7:00 PM PT \$386

Road Narratives: Choosing Your Own Adventure

WITH GABRIELA DENISE FRANK

Nonfiction / Online / Intermediate / 6 sessions

"I want to support the writing of movement, adventure, travel, and pilgrimage by women and nonbinary writers. When I was growing up, there weren't many models of young women (or women of any age) traveling the way male adventurers did: on the road, the seas, the skies... Women writing narratives of physical journey will encourage more women to go out adventuring themselves." - Gabriela Denise Frank, Hugo House instructor

Embrace artistic vulnerability in this generative workshop. As we navigate a range of narrative and lyric forms, we'll learn to sit with ideas and concepts that unsettle us and practice writing what we struggle to say. Expect to leave with several new writing starts and a shifted perspective on journey, movement, and adventure in your own life.

This class includes:

- Generative writing
- Feedback from peers and instructor
- Optional writing and/or reading outside of class.



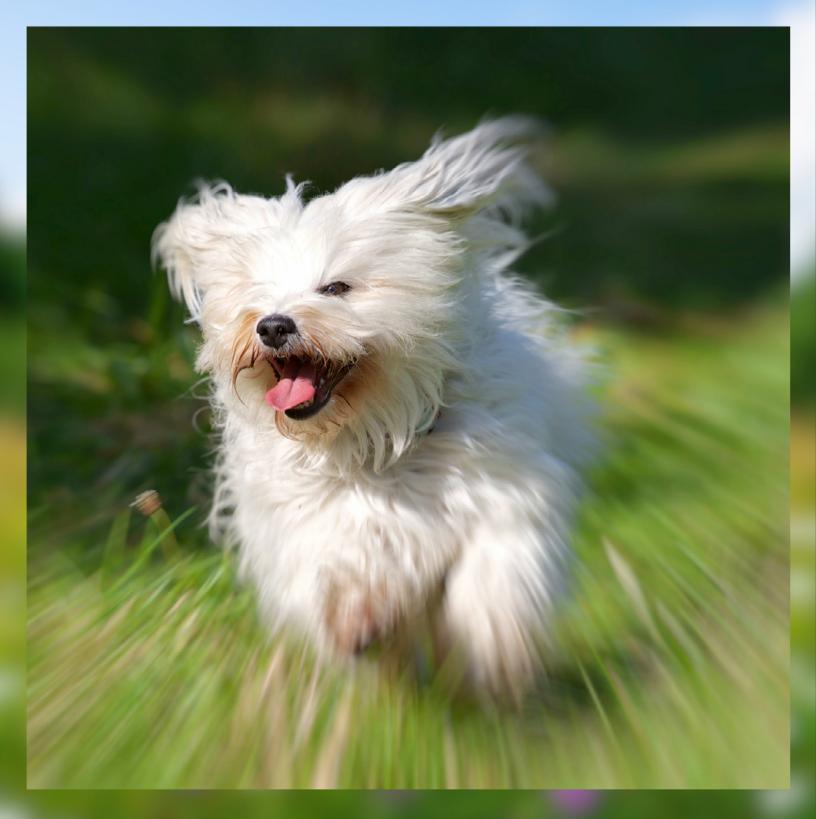
Write Your Memoir's Overview with Theo Nestor Intermediate / 1 session ONLINE July 17 Wednesday, 5:00 - 7:00 PM PT \$68.40 - \$76

Memoir's Overview

WITH THEO NESTOR

Nonfiction / Online / Intermediate / 1 session

A good memoir overview might be the hardest few hundred words you'll ever write. A precise and concise memoir overview will be the foundation for eye-catching query letters, book proposals, author websites, back covers, and product pages that make readers and publishers want more. In this two-hour seminar, we'll examine spectacular overviews—ones that draw readers in and quickly give them a sense of the story's arc and larger significance—then practice writing our own. Expect to leave class with a draft of your own memoir overview.



Short But Mighty: Crafting Flash Nonfiction with Kate Carmody Introductory, Intermediate / 1 session ONLINE July 20 Saturday, 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM PT \$102.60 - \$114

Short But Mighty: Crafting Flash Nonfiction

WITH KATE CARMODY

Nonfiction / Online / Introductory, Intermediate / 1 session

Tiny things can be powerful: an ant can carry 5,000 times its body weight, and writers can pack a punch in less than 1,000 words. In this seminar-style workshop, we'll read a variety of flash nonfiction pieces, discuss the tenets of this popular form, and learn how authors make a huge impact in such few words. Then, we'll write our own short work. Expect to leave with several starts to a flash nonfiction essay of your own.

This class includes:

Reading & generative writing

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Writing for McSweeney's with Jeff Bender All Levels / 4 sessions ONLINE July 2 - 23 Tuesdays, 5:00 - 7:00 PM PT \$273.60 - \$304

Writing For Mesweneys

WITH JEFF BENDER

Multigenre / Online / All Levels / 4 sessions

Ever get the feeling that you're secretly funny? Convert your pet peeves and bizarre thoughts into McSweeney's-style satire pieces, craft short humor from constraint—600-900 word works, easy intros, kinky "buttons," and more—and meet special guests from the humor-writing world. At the end of this 6-week workshop, you'll leave with 1 or 2 full humor pieces and premises for more.

This class includes:

- · Generative writing, craft discussion, & workshop
- Feedback from peers & instructor
- 1-2 hours of reading and/or writing outside of class per week



Writing Short Humor and Telling Big Jokes with Mayur Chauhan All Levels / 4 sessions ONLINE July 9 - 30 Tuesdays, 5:00 - 7:00 PM PT \$273.60 - \$304

Writing Short Humor & Telling Big Jokes

WITH MAYUR CHAUHAN

Multigenre / Online / All Levels / 4 sessions

Got opinions, passions, pet-peeves, feelings, curiosity, or frustrations? Channel your fire into fun jokes and short humor pieces in this playful and highly supportive workshop. Start your jokes in class and expand them into short humor pieces suitable for the *New Yorker*, *McSweeney's*, *Slackjaw*, and more over the course of 4 weeks. You will leave class with three polished pieces and a funnier, more creative perspective on the world.

This class includes:

- Generative writing, workshop, class discussion, & reading
- Feedback from peers and instructor
- 2-3 hours of reading and/or writing outside of class



She Who Bodies the World with Shankar Narayan All Levels / 2 sessions ONLINE July 13 to 20 Saturdays, 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM PT \$138.80 - \$152

She Who Bodies the World: Writing the Goddess

WITH SHANKAR NARAYAN

Multigenre / Online / All Levels / 2 sessions

The mythology and philosophy of the Hindu Goddess offers a rich, radical, and diverse vision of the divine feminine. For her devotees, the Goddess is creator, preserver, and destroyer of the entire universe, and her many forms illustrate her different (and often contradictory) aspects in all their nuance and detail.

In this generative workshop, we'll dig deeply into ten intense visions of the divine feminine, read ancient texts and myths, absorb vibrant artwork, poetry, and film, and create our own explosive writing in response. Expect to come away with a foundational understanding of Goddess mythology and how it fits into the broader landscape of world philosophies, a number of starts and/or new pieces, and an expanded understanding of possibilities within the practice of writing itself.

What to expect:

- · Generative writing & reading
- Feedback from peers and instructor.
- Optional reading and/or writing outside of class.

Section 1 5/2067 

How to Read a Play with Miriam Tobin Introductory, Intermediate / 8 sessions IN PERSON July 18 to September 5 Saturday, 7:10 - 9:10 PM PT \$500

How to Read

WITH MIRIAM TOBIN

Performance / In Person / Introductory, Intermediate / 8 sessions

Plays are written with performance in mind, but they're still pieces of literature in their own right. In this eight-week reading and writing workshop, you'll learn the basic craft elements of playwriting—including character development, plot/action, structure, and style—then you'll write your own play! Expect to leave this class with a better understanding of the anatomy and intentions behind a play, as well as a draft of your own short script.

This class includes:

- · Generative writing, workshop, craft discussion, & reading
- Feedback from peers and instructor
- 1-2 hours of writing and/or reading outside of class

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Establishing a Writing Practice with Rachel Sobel All Levels / 8 sessions IN PERSON July 3 - August 28; skip day July 31 Wednesdays, 5:00 - 7:00 PM PT \$500

Establishing a Writing Practice

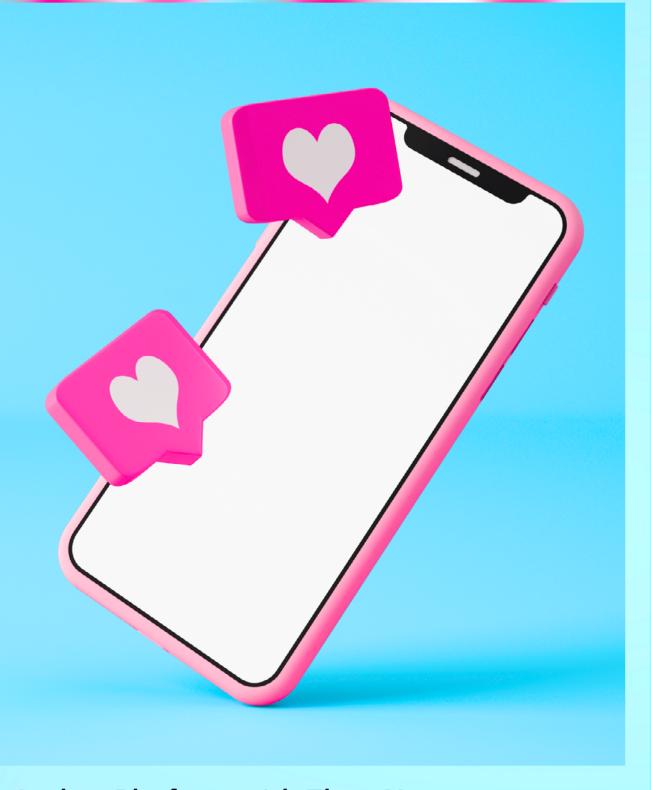
WITH RACHEL SOBEL

The Writing Life / In Person / All Levels / 8 sessions

You're struggling to find time to write. You seem to be stuck in a cycle of starting and restarting. You can't figure out how to make satisfying progress on your writing, and it's killing you. If this is you right now, you need this accountability workshop: Over six weeks, you'll learn how to plan and finish projects, get into the habit of writing regularly, and improve your writing by leaps and bounds—in a way that works for you! You'll leave this course with a sustainable weekly writing practice and the tools to rethink, adjust, and revise during moments you feel stuck.

This class includes:

- Generative writing & craft discussion
- Feedback from both peers and instructor
- 1-2 hours of writing and/or reading outside of class, depending on student goals



Build Your Author Platform with Theo Nestor Intermediate / 1 session ONLINE July 10 Wednesday, 5:00 - 7:00 PM PT \$68.40 - \$76

Build Your Author Flationm

WITH THEO NESTOR

Writing Life / Online / Intermediate/ 1 session

Writers often hear they need a "platform" to sell their books, but how does one start to build a platform? This two-hour seminar is all about unpacking the dreaded "author's platform": how you can begin building an audience in easy and manageable ways. You'll learn the how and why of email lists, author websites, and a bare-minimum approach to social media, and will walk away from this class with concrete and practical skills for building a sustainable author platform.

Perfect for writers of all genres who want to grow their following, especially nonfiction and fiction writers who want to build a community before pitching their manuscript.

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