

MODULE PROFORMA		
Full module title: Writing Life		
Module code: 6CREW004W	Credit level: 6	Length: one semester
UK credit value: 20	ECTS value: 10	
School and Department: School of Humanities		
Module Leader: Matt Morrison		
Extension: 68961	Email: morrisma@westminster.ac.uk	
Host course: Creative Writing and English Language/ Matthew Morrison		
Status: Option		
Subject Board: UG Humanities PAB		
Pre-requisites: None	Co-requisites: None	
Study abroad: No		
Special features: None		
Access restrictions: None		
Are the module learning outcomes delivered, assessed or supported through an arrangement with an organisation(s) other than the University of Westminster. No		
<p>Summary of module content:</p> <p>This module examines contemporary and traditional theory concerning life writing, whilst introducing students to the skills needed to explore forms such as narrative non-fiction, autobiography, biography, memoir, auto-fiction. The demands of print and on-line platforms will both be addressed.</p>		

Learning outcomes

By the end of the module the successful student will be able to:

- LO1: tell a compelling real-life story using the narrative skill set of a novelist or short story writer;
- LO2: discuss confidently the theoretical track of narrative non-fiction through to creative non-fiction;
- LO3: show a detailed understanding of the ethical issues arising from life writing practice;
- LO4: write true stories confidently across multiple themes using newly-acquired transferrable skills;
- LO5: operate in complex contexts, requiring selection and application from a range of techniques and resources.

Host course outcomes the module contributes to:

- L6.2 confident techniques in the production of creative work (PPP);
- L6.4 advanced independence of thought and critical and creative judgement (KTS);
- L6.6 advanced reflexivity as students, on the evidence of the ability to make the fullest use of feedback and guidance (GA).

Indicative syllabus content

Seminars will cover the following key areas:

- life writing theory
- themes such as illness, family, food, music, travel, work, conflict, fashion
- issues of memory and questions of truth
- ethics and responsibilities
- narrative structure
- dynamic storytelling

Teaching and learning methods

Two-hour weekly seminar with two weeks dedicated to tutorials for student assignments in progress.

Activity type	Category	Student learning and teaching hours*
Lecture		
Seminar	Scheduled	20
Tutorial	Scheduled	4
Project supervisor		
Demonstration		
Practical Classes and workshops		
Supervised time in studio/workshop		
Fieldwork		
External visits		
Work based learning		
Total Scheduled		24
Placement		
Independent study	Independent	176
• reading and research		100
• writing and editing		76
Total student learning and teaching hours		200

*the hours per activity type are indicative and subject to change.

Assessment rationale

Portfolio (testing LO 1, 2, 3, 4 & 5)

Assessment for this module is designed to evaluate the student's ability to produce pieces of theoretically rigorous and compelling life writing. Students will create a portfolio comprising a series of pieces (deigned for either online or print publication) that are thematically linked, demonstrating the extent to which they have assimilated the forms and conventions of life writing and have been able to employ those forms or innovate within them. In addition, students will write a short, theoretically underpinned, reflective essay in which they engage with ethical questions encountered in the course of their writing. The portfolio of written work (including essay) will total approximately 4,000 words.

Assessment criteria

Detailed and specific criteria for the assessment are found on Blackboard.

In general, however, the work for this module will be assessed according to the skill with which students apply creative writing techniques - narrative control, story structure, imagery, characterisation, sense of place - to aspects of their lived experience. It will also take into account the extent to which the student has engaged with the ethical questions arising from the practice of life writing.

Assessment methods and weightings

Assessment name	Weighting %	Qualifying mark %	Qualifying set	Assessment type
Life Writing Portfolio (4,000 words)	100			Portfolio

Synoptic assessment

n/a

Sources

<https://rl.talis.com/3/westminster/lists/3738A7C6-1981-7814-C57A-871999F827F3.html?lang=en-GB&login=1>