

**Instructor:** Pipkin, John  
**Unique #:** 79680  
**Semester:** Summer I 2020  
**Teaching Assistant:**

**Instructor Contact:**  
**Location:** Online  
**Meeting Time:** MTWTHF 2:30-4:00  
**T.A. Contact:**

**Office Hours:** By Appointment on Zoom

**Description:** This is an entry-level course in the writing of narrative fiction, with a focus on the short story form. The first step in developing your writing craft is to learn how to read as a writer, so substantial emphasis will be placed on reading and discussing short stories. You will be required to analyze the structure and craft of the short stories assigned. Learning how to identify the fundamental elements and narrative techniques in these stories will help you to employ these techniques in your own work. We will also read several selections from the textbook discussing the craft of fiction. Class will consist of lecture, in-class writing, discussion, and workshop participation. You should be prepared to read and discuss your work in class. The main goal of the workshop sessions is to help you develop editing skills so that you can continue to grow as a writer beyond this class. After your work is discussed in workshop, you should be prepared to use the ideas discussed in the critiques to improve the original draft. Participation in workshop is an essential part of this class, so you must come prepared to discuss the works under consideration.

**Texts:** Handouts and short-stories will be provided in class. (No text needs to be purchased for class.)

**Policies:** *Documented Disability Statement:* The University of Texas at Austin provides upon request appropriate academic accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. For more information, contact Services for Students with Disabilities at 471-6259 (voice) or 232-2937 (video phone), or visit <http://www.utexas.edu/diversity/ddce/ssd>.

*Honor Code:* The core values of The University of Texas at Austin are learning, discovery, freedom, leadership, individual opportunity, and responsibility. Each member of the university is expected to uphold these values through integrity, honesty, trust, fairness, and respect toward peers and community.

*Academic Integrity:* Any work submitted by a student in this course for academic credit will be the student's own work. For additional information on Academic Integrity, see <http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/sjs/acadint.php>.

*Religious Holy Days:* By UT Austin policy, you must notify me of a pending absence at least fourteen days prior to the date of observance of a religious holy day. If you must miss a class, an examination, a work assignment, or a project in order to observe a religious holy day, I will give you an opportunity to complete the missed work within a reasonable time after the absence.

### **Requirements & Grading:**

Paper #1	20%
Paper #2	30%
Paper #3	30%
Workshop participation	10%

**No final exam**

Papers are due on the dates indicated. Late submissions will not be accepted.  
Attendance is required. Plus and minus grades will be assigned.

**Schedule:**

**6/4: Intro / Narrative Structure**

**6/5: Short Form**

“Accident”

**6/8: Point of View / Narration**

**6/9: Character Development**

“Carpathia” “Sleeping”

**6/10: Writing Exercise (Character)**

“Jumper Down” “Flu”

**6/11: Writing Exercise (An)**

**6/12: Writing Exercise (Plot)**

**Story 1 DUE (6/12)**

**6/15: Openings**

**6/16: Lecture (An)**

“A Temporary Matter”

**6/17: Plot/Conflict / Tension**

**6/18: Interior/Exterior**

“Speckled Trout”

**6/19: Writing Exercise (An)**

“The English Pupil”

**Story 2 DUE (6/19)**

**6/22: Writing Exercise (Setting)**

**6/23: Lecture (An)**

**6/24: Writing Exercise**

**6/25: Writing Exercise (An)**

**6/26: Workshop**

**Story 3 Draft DUE**

**6/29: Workshop**

**6/30: Workshop**

**7/1: Workshop**

**7/2: Workshop**

**7/3: Workshop**

**7/6: Workshop**

**7/7: Workshop**

**7/8: Workshop**

**7/9: Workshop**

**Story 3 DUE (Monday 7/13)**

No Final Exam