

Module code: MOD008680	Version: 1 Date Amended: 14/Dec/2021
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1. Module Title
Novel Writing: Long-form Prose

2a. Module Leader
Alison MacLeod

2b. School
Cambridge School of the Creative Industries

2c. Faculty
Faculty of Arts, Humanities, Education and Social Sciences

3a. Level
6

3b. Module Type
Standard (fine graded)

4a. Credits
15

4b. Study Hours
150

5. Restrictions			
Type	Module Code	Module Name	Condition
Pre-requisites:	None		
Co-requisites:	None		
Exclusions:	None		
Courses to which this module is restricted:	BA (Hons) Creative Writing, BA (Hons) Writing and English Literature, BA (Hons) Writing and Film		

LEARNING, TEACHING AND ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

6a. Module Description

This module introduces you to the process of writing a novel. You will approach the project from idea conception and then progress to the development of elements including plot, main character/protagonist, conflict, setting, and other narrative choices. Class meetings will be split between discussion of these elements and directed writing sprints, giving you the opportunity to work individually in a writing-community setting. In addition to writing in class, you will also strengthen your critiquing skills by workshopping your classmates' writing. The module will also develop your synopsis and query-letter writing skills as you explore the role of agents and editors in the publishing industry and the routes towards novel publication.

6b. Outline Content

- the opportunities and techniques of long-form fiction as opposed to other forms of imaginative writing
- effective techniques for developing long-form fiction concepts
- effective techniques for opening, developing, and concluding novels
- use of observation and creation of convincing settings, action, plot, and characters
- the creative and practical processes of effective fiction writing
- reading as a writer
- giving and receiving constructive criticism
- techniques for engaging readers of novels
- industry expectations for shopping novels to agents and publishing houses
- the development of synopses and agent covering letters

6c. Key Texts/Literature

The reading list to support this module is available at: <https://readinglists.aru.ac.uk/>

6d. Specialist Learning Resources

None

7. Learning Outcomes (threshold standards)

No.	Type	On successful completion of this module the student will be expected to be able to:
1	Knowledge and Understanding	Demonstrate a detailed understanding of the techniques and conventions of long-form fiction writing
2	Knowledge and Understanding	Demonstrate an understanding of materials required for traditional publication of novels and the role literary agents play in the process
3	Intellectual, practical, affective and transferrable skills	Plan, write, and edit long-form fiction writing to a professional standard through notebooks, research, workshop criticism and redrafting
4	Intellectual, practical, affective and transferrable skills	Analyse and reflect critically on the writing of self and others in terms of process, product and medium

8a. Module Occurrence to which this MDF Refers				
Year	Occurrence	Period	Location	Mode of Delivery
2025/6	ZZF	Template For Face To Face Learning Delivery		Face to Face

8b. Learning Activities for the above Module Occurrence			
Learning Activities	Hours	Learning Outcomes	Details of Duration, frequency and other comments
Lectures	0	None	None
Other teacher managed learning	24	1-4	12 x 2hr session per week, seminars and workshops
Student managed learning	126	1-4	Weekly work reading, selecting, editing, reflecting, developing, and writing
TOTAL:	150		

9. Assessment for the above Module Occurrence					
Assessment No.	Assessment Method	Learning Outcomes	Weighting (%)	Fine Grade or Pass/Fail	Qualifying Mark (%)
010	Coursework	1-4	100 (%)	Fine Grade	30 (%)
3,000-word portfolio that includes creative work plus industry-specific materials.					

Assessment components for Element 010				
Component No.	Assessment Title	Submission Method	Weighting (%)	Components needed for Mark Calculation?
010/1	creative sample consisting of the opening chapter(s): 2250 words	Canvas	75 (%)	All
010/2	mock cover letter and short synopsis: 750 words together	Canvas	25 (%)	

In order to pass this module, students are required to achieve an overall mark of 40% (for modules at levels 3, 4, 5 and 6) or 50% (for modules at level 7*).

In addition, students are required to:

(a) achieve the qualifying mark for each element of fine graded assessment as specified above

(b) pass any pass/fail elements

[* the pass mark of 50% applies for all module occurrences from the academic year 2024/25 – see Section 3a of this MDF to check the level of the module and Section 8a of this MDF to check the academic year]