

ENGL 7602: Fiction Workshop
Professor Courtney Miller Santo
Spring 2022

This graduate-level workshop devotes most of its sessions to reading and workshopping student work. Our focus is on bettering translations of story from a writer's head to the page. We will achieve this through peer critique, self-assessment, revision, traditional workshop methodologies, and by learning from other published authors by analyzing their approaches to plot, character, structure, timescape, setting, and identity disturbance. Students are expected to write a minimum of twenty-five pages of new material during the semester.

Our discussion of published fiction, craft essays, and literary criticism will center around the question of **happy endings**. Is the state of literature as Ben Marcus has said that "the positive is already given, and what's left for writers is to depict the negative, the darkness, the bleakest possibilities" or is there a reason to depict joy?

All assigned reading material will be in alignment with the best fair use practices and/or material available as open education resources.