## ENGL 4603.001: Fiction Workshop

## Fall 2022 T/Th 2:40-4:05 pm Mark Mayer - mmayer@memphis.edu

A semester dedicated to writing and rewriting fiction. Your major assignments will be to:

- Unit 1: Write a personal definition of "entertainment" and compose a short story that entertains according to your definition.
- Unit 2: Study the mechanics of narrative surprise and write a short story with a "well-made surprise."
- Unit 3: Invent your own genre, outline a novel in that genre, and draft the first chapter of the novel.

Class sessions will be devoted discussions of the craft of fiction writing and workshops of student work. We will also discuss published fiction, mostly short stories, representing a variety of narrative and sentimental strategies.

Readings from: Violet Allen, A.S. Byatt, Jennifer Egan, Arthur Flowers, N.K. Jemisin, Yoko Ogawa, Deesha Philyaw, Kristen Roupenian, J.D. Salinger, Bruno Schultz, Bennett Sims, Amos Tutuola, and others.

## Required Texts:

• ENGL 4603 Coursepack