

ENGL 7602-001: Fiction Workshop

Fall 2020

Wednesdays 5:30-8:30 pm

Mark Mayer - mmayer@memphis.edu

A graduate-level workshop in fiction writing. Class sessions will be devoted primarily to reading and workshopping student work, with particular attention to story structure, emotional interrogation, character revelation, language, and the revision process. Students will be given freedom to pursue their own ongoing projects and where appropriate critiques will consider student stories and chapters in the context of book-length projects. We will also discuss published fiction, mostly short stories, representing a variety of narrative and sentimental strategies. Students will help determine our reading list.

Readings from: James Baldwin, Jamel Brinkley, Leonora Carrington, Julio Cortázar, James Joyce, Jamaica Kincaid, Alexandra Kleeman, Leonard Michaels, and Scholastique Mukasonga.

Required Texts:

- Toni Morrison, *Playing in the Dark: Whiteness and the Literary Imagination*. New York: Vintage, 1992.
- Italo Calvino, *Six Memos for the Next Millennium*. New York: Vintage, 1993.
- ENGL 7602 Coursepack