

**Derek Moseley, Instructor**

ENGL 3607 Fiction Writing – Spring 2016

Section 01: Mondays & Wednesdays 2:20 p.m.-3:45 p.m.

Patterson 217

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**Catalog Course Description**

Exploration of the creative process within the forms and traditions of fiction. Emphasis on the student's own work.

**Extended Course Description**

This is a writing class for students who have little or no experience in writing fiction. Students will read the work of their peers and comment on its effectiveness as realistic fiction. Discussion will center on various aspects of the craft of fiction: characterization, point of view, scene, voice, setting, plot, dialogue, exposition, and the use of language. Stories of published writers will also be introduced and discussed within the framework of reading as a writer and analyzing the aspects of the craft of fiction. Attendance and active participation are essential. Students will read and respond to weekly readings, complete writing exercises, write two original short stories of 7-10 pages each, revise the story of their choice, and submit an end-of-semester writer's portfolio.

**Learning Outcomes** At the conclusion of this course, students should be able to:

Recognize certain strategies of narration in the work of their colleagues, including dialogue, scene, setting and plot.

Analyze the work of their peers using their understanding of the use of these strategies, and comment knowingly on the quality of their use.

Develop their own strategy for work toward the writing of prose fiction.

Demonstrate some beginning sense of the heritage from which they have come and of the writers whose work has shaped the art form.

**Required Texts:**

- *The Art and Craft of Fiction: A Writer's Guide*, by Michael Kardos, 2012  
ISBN: 978-1457613906
- *The Ecco Anthology of Contemporary American Short Fiction* (Oates & Beha, Editors), 2008  
ISBN: 978-0-06-166158-7