



MARTHA BRADLEY EVANS
Center for Teaching Excellence
THE UNIVERSITY OF UTAH

ENGL 5510-001: Fiction Workshop

Spring Semester 2025

Dr. Rone Shavers

Course Description

A fiction writing workshop for English majors and creative writing minors

Course Outcomes and Objectives

By the end of this course, you will have:

- Further honed your creative writing skills
- Developed a more complex understanding of the aesthetics of fiction
- Increased your knowledge of a wide range of literary texts, authors, and ideas
- Deepened and broadened the ways you conceive of and write your fictional works

Course Requirements

Your final grade will appear as a letter value, and will be determined by a combination of the following:

- Attendance and participation – 50%
- Written assignments – 50%

Grading Scale

A 100-94%	C 76-74%
A- 93-90%	C- 73-70%
B+ 89-87%	D+ 69-67%
B 86-84%	D 66-64%
B- 83-80%	D- 63-60%
C+ 79-77%	E 59% or less

Required Texts

Madison Smartt Bell. *Narrative Design* (ISBN 0-393-32021-9)

Jesmyn Ward, editor. *Best American Short Stories 2021* (ISBN 978-1-328-48539-7)

Supplemental craft essays and short stories to be posted on Canvas

University Policies

Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA)

The University of Utah seeks to provide equal access to its programs, services, and activities for people with disabilities.

All written information in this course can be made available in an alternative format with prior notification to the [Center for Disability & Access](#) (CDA). CDA will work with you and the instructor to make arrangements for accommodations. Prior notice is appreciated. To read the full accommodations policy for the University of Utah, please see Section Q of the [Instruction & Evaluation regulations](#).

In compliance with ADA requirements, some students may need to record course content. Any recordings of course content are for personal use only, should not be shared, and should never be made publicly available. In addition, recordings must be destroyed at the conclusion of the course.

If you will need accommodations in this class, or for more information about what support they provide, contact:

Center for Disability & Access

801-581-5020
disability.utah.edu
65 Student Services Building
201 S 1460 E
Salt Lake City, UT 84112

Safety at the U

The University of Utah values the safety of all campus community members. You will receive important emergency alerts and safety messages regarding campus safety via text message. For more safety information and to view available training resources, including helpful videos, visit safeu.utah.edu.

To report suspicious activity or to request a courtesy escort, contact:

Campus Police & Department of Public Safety

801-585-COPS (801-585-2677)
dps.utah.edu
1735 E. S. Campus Dr.
Salt Lake City, UT 84112

Addressing Sexual Misconduct

Title IX makes it clear that violence and harassment based on sex and gender (which includes sexual orientation and gender identity/expression) is a civil rights offense subject to the same kinds of accountability and the same kinds of support applied to offenses against other protected categories such as race, national origin, color, religion, age, status as a person with a disability, veteran's status, or genetic information.

If you or someone you know has been harassed or assaulted, you are encouraged to report it to university officials:

Title IX Coordinator & Office of Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action

801-581-8365
oeo.utah.edu

135 Park Building
201 Presidents' Cir.
Salt Lake City, UT 84112

Office of the Dean of Students

801-581-7066
deanofstudents.utah.edu
270 Union Building
200 S. Central Campus Dr.
Salt Lake City, UT 84112

To file a police report, contact:

Campus Police & Department of Public Safety

801-585-COPS (801-585-2677)
dps.utah.edu
1735 E. S. Campus Dr.
Salt Lake City, UT 84112

If you do not feel comfortable reporting to authorities, the U's Victim-Survivor Advocates provide free, confidential, and trauma-informed support services to students, faculty, and staff who have experienced interpersonal violence.

To privately explore options and resources available to you with an advocate, contact:

Center for Campus Wellness

801-581-7776
wellness.utah.edu
350 Student Services Building
201 S. 1460 E.
Salt Lake City, UT 84112

Academic Misconduct

It is expected that students comply with University of Utah policies regarding academic honesty, including but not limited to refraining from cheating, plagiarizing, misrepresenting one's work, and/or inappropriately collaborating. This includes the use of generative artificial intelligence (AI) tools without citation, documentation, or authorization. Students are expected to adhere to the prescribed professional and ethical standards of the profession/discipline for which they are preparing. Any student who engages in academic dishonesty or who violates the professional and ethical standards for their profession/discipline may be subject to academic sanctions as per the University of Utah's Student Code: [Policy 6-410: Student Academic Performance, Academic Conduct, and Professional and Ethical Conduct](#).

Plagiarism and cheating are serious offenses and may be punished by failure on an individual assignment, and/or failure in the course. Academic misconduct, according to the University of Utah Student Code:

“...Includes, but is not limited to, cheating, misrepresenting one’s work, inappropriately collaborating, plagiarism, and fabrication or falsification of information...It also includes facilitating academic misconduct by intentionally helping or attempting to help another to commit an act of academic misconduct.”

For details on plagiarism and other important course conduct issues, see the U's [Code of Student Rights and Responsibilities](#).

Preliminary Course Schedule

[Only if applicable, provide a preliminary schedule for major examinations and assignment due dates.]

<u>Date</u>	<u>Topic/Discussion</u>	<u>Due Dates:</u>
WEEK ONE Tuesday, January 7	Introduction and discussion of syllabus	
WEEK TWO Tuesday, January 14	Short story discussion; Craft discussion Take-home writing prompt	
WEEK THREE Tuesday, January 21	Short story discussion; Craft discussion Take-home writing prompt	
WEEK FOUR Tuesday, January 28	Short story discussion; Craft discussion In-class prompt; small group workshops	
WEEK FIVE Tuesday, February 4	Short story discussion; Craft discussion In-class prompt; small group workshops	
WEEK SIX Tuesday, February 11	Short story discussion; Craft discussion In-class prompt; small group workshops	
WEEK SEVEN Tuesday, February 18	Short story discussion; Craft discussion In-class prompt; small group workshops	
WEEK EIGHT		

Tuesday, February 25

Short story discussion; Craft discussion
In-class workshop on craft and revision / “revising for craft”

WEEK NINE

Tuesday, March 4

Short story discussion; Workshop discussion of:
Student Writers: TK

WEEK TEN

Tuesday, March 18

Short story discussion; Workshop discussion of:
Student Writers: TK

WEEK ELEVEN

Tuesday, March 25

Short story discussion; Workshop discussion of:
Student Writers: TK

WEEK TWELVE

Tuesday, April 1

Short story discussion; Workshop discussion of:
Student Writers: TK

WEEK THIRTEEN

Tuesday, April 8

Short story discussion; Workshop discussion of:
Student Writers: TK

WEEK FOURTEEN

Tuesday, April 15

Short story discussion; Workshop discussion of:
Student Writers TK (and/or POSSIBLE MAKE-UP DAY)

WEEK FIFTEEN

Tuesday, April 22

ALL SHORT STORY REVISIONS DUE
LAST DAY OF CLASS – FRIDAY SCHEDULE