



Course syllabus

Faculty of Arts and Humanities

Department of Languages

1EN140 Kreativt skrivande på engelska: novellen, 15 högskolepoäng

Creative Writing in English: The Short Story, 15 credits

Main field of study

English, Comparative Literature

Subject Group

Creative Writing

Level of classification

First Level

Progression

G1F

Date of Ratification

Approved by Faculty of Arts and Humanities 2019-12-19

The course syllabus is valid from autumn semester 2020

Prerequisites

General entry requirements and at least 30 credits of completed university studies.

Objectives

After completing the course, the student should be able to:

- write a short story and account for basic narrative techniques of the short story, such as writing dialogues and character descriptions and developing a plot,
- apply knowledge of the short story as a genre on their own writing,
- use correct English which demonstrates literary awareness in creative, literary texts.

Module 1. The design, context and typology of the short story (5 credits)

After completing the module, the student should be able to:

- account for relevant parts of the development, structure and aesthetic relevance of the short story, and relate this to their own creative writing,
- independently formulate and communicate reflections and analyses of artistic texts.

Module 2. Writing a short story, process writing (10 credits)

After completing the module, the student should be able to:

- plan, structure and conduct a literary project (short story),
- use correct English which demonstrates literary awareness in creative, literary texts,
- master artistic, technical aspects of writing, such as writing dialogues and plot, and describing characters and environments,
- reflect on the conditions of creative writing and constructively criticise their own and others' creative writing.

Content

This course has a creative, artistic approach, focusing on the writing of literary texts and including both theoretical and practical parts. Through studies of the short story as a genre as well as close reading of short stories from various time periods, the student develops a theoretical basis for their own artistic work. During the course, the student writes a short story which is developed in consultation with the teacher and discussed with the other students.

The course includes the following modules:

Module 1, The design, context and typology of the short story (5 credits)

This module aims to provide the students with a theoretical basis for their own artistic, creative writing. It discusses the significance of literature from different perspectives. The module also discusses formal aspects of literary texts, including questions concerning genre, composition, disposition, style, word choices and language structure. A selection of literary texts from different time periods are analysed and discussed. In addition to the required reading, the student chooses texts to support and inspire their own writing.

Module 2, Writing a short story: process writing (10 credits)

This module focuses on the students' own creative writing. The student develops a short story in consultation with the teacher and fellow students. The text is discussed and revised several times. The students also write short texts in which they reflect critically on and evaluate their own work and the other students' texts.

Type of Instruction

Teaching is distance-based and delivered in the form of assignments and discussions. When the course is offered as an online part-time course, teaching is primarily delivered through an online learning platform. The students are offered individual supervision in the various parts of the course, focusing on the writing of short stories. The students also critically and constructively comment on each other's texts, and self-critically reflect on their own texts.

All assignments and feedback on other students written assignments are compulsory.

Examination

The course is assessed with the grades A, B, C, D, E, Fx or F. In order to receive the grade of C–E, the student must achieve the intended learning outcomes. Grading criteria for the grades of A–B will be specified when the course starts.

Module 1 is examined through analytical written assignments and discussions about literary texts and contexts, focusing on the form and content of the text, as well as a continuous reading report in which the student's reading of literary texts is related to their own writing.

Module 2 is examined through the literary texts the student writes, as well as written assignments on their own and the other students' writing.

If the university has decided that a student has the right to special educational support due to a disability, the examiner may offer an adapted test or allow the student to conduct the test in an alternative form.

For students who do not pass their first examinations, retake examinations are provided in accordance with Local regulations for courses and examinations at the first and second levels at Linnaeus University.

Course Evaluation

At the end of the course, a course evaluation is conducted. Results and analysis of the course evaluation are communicated to the students who have taken the course

COURSE EVALUATION ARE COMMUNICATED TO THE STUDENTS WHO HAVE TAKEN THE COURSE.

Students who are taking the course when it is offered the next time are informed of the results at the start of the course. The evaluation is anonymous.

Required Reading and Additional Study Material

Module 1, The design, context and typology of the short story (5 credits)

Gioia, Dana & Gwynn, R. S. (eds.). 2005. *The Art of the Short Story*. New York: Pearson Longman. Ca 700 p. ISBN 9780321363633.

Texts provided by the department, ca 100 p.

Module 2, Writing a short story: process writing (10 credits)

Cox, Ailsa. 2016. *Writing Short Stories: A Routledge Writer's Guide*. London: Routledge. 169 p. Available at the university library's website.

Knight, Damon. 1997. *Creating Short Fiction: The Classic Guide to Writing Short Fiction*. Any edition. ca 200 p.

Lee, Maurice (ed.). 2005. *Writers on Writing: The Art of the Short Story*. Westport, Connecticut & London: ABC-CLIO. 247 p. Available at the university library's website.

Pinker, Steven. 2015. *The Sense of Style: The Thinking Person's Guide to Writing in the 21st Century*. Any edition. ca 350 p.