

## Wednesday

### **Writing Stories and Memoirs**

The best way to learn to write is to write and then let readers tell you how they think you could improve your work. Some writing groups are brutal; this one will not be.

Participants will write stories or fragments of memoirs; these will be passed out to the group for comments, which will be given to the writers the following week. Volunteers may choose to offer their work for classroom discussions. The facilitator will make available information on tools writers may find useful.

**Facilitator:** *Carter Jefferson*

Carter Jefferson is a retired Professor of History at UMass Boston. A former newspaper reporter and editor, he has published a scholarly political biography, as well as scholarly papers. His short stories have appeared in a Web e-zine and a university literary magazine. He has also published book reviews in the *Chicago Tribune* and the *Washington Post* and has written radio copy for United Press. At UMass Boston, he has taught *Introduction to Historical Writing*.

**Date:** 8 Wednesdays, March 7 to April 25

**Time:** 1:00-3:00 pm

**Location:** UMass Boston, specific room will be announced

### **Italian Masterpieces--Part II (CDP)**

We will watch and discuss the following films: *The Leopard*, *La Strada*, *The Bicycle Thief*,

*Tree of Wooden Clog*, *Cinema Paradiso*, *Salvatore Giuliano*, and a surprise film. This means I haven't decided on it yet. Maybe I'll introduce you to another foreign language film. Or, I'll find another Italian gem.

**Facilitator:** Richard Rancatore has lived, studied, and played music all of his professional life. He still performs, knows people in the business, and loves it, as he loves teaching, which he has done in public and private secondary schools since 1955. He has taught math, economics, history and chemistry, as well as music. He has facilitated many film courses for OLLI.

**Date:** 7 Wednesdays, March 7 to April 18

**Time:** 1:00-3:30 pm

**Location:** Cordage Park, Plymouth, UMass Boston suite 201, Building 3

### **Take Good Care of Yourself: Stretch Your Body and Mind**

We will practice meditation, mindfulness, very gentle stretches, and several breathing techniques during this course. These practices increase awareness, joy, and health. We will follow the tradition of Thich Nhat Hanh, a Buddhist monk from Vietnam, who has been teaching in the West for 40 years. These practices do not conflict with any religion but introduce us to an Eastern wisdom that is thousands of years old. Join us; wear comfortable clothes.

**Facilitators:** *Pat Morris and Teddi Richmond*

Patricia Morris and Teddi Richmond met several years ago under the auspices of Thich Nat Hanh, a renowned Zen master, poet and peace activist and have continued meditation practice. They belong to a Thursday morning group and Thursday night *sangah* and often attend days of mindfulness. They continue with their reading in periodicals and books.

**Date:** 4 Wednesdays, March 7 to March 28

**Time:** 10:00-Noon

**Location:** UMass Boston, specific room will be announced

## **So You Think You Have Problems (Part 2), Husband-Wife Relationship in Shakespeare**

From the hilarious battle of wills in *The Taming of the Shrew* to the heart-rending corrosiveness of jealousy in *Othello*, William Shakespeare, who had to make an honest woman of Anne Hathaway, explored both the humorous and tragic sides of the married life in many of his works. Former UMass instructor Dr. Christopher Harding and Martina Jackson return to team-teach with a multi-pronged approach to explore two or three of the Bard's most rewarding plays. Using videos, DVDs, in-class acting sessions, close study of the text, and perhaps a field trip to see a production, we will strive to understand Shakespeare's insights into marital dynamics, and relate his perceptions to the "drama" of our own lives.

**Facilitators:** *Christopher Harding and Martina Jackson*

For over 10 years, these two devotees of the Bard have taught "Shakespeare Comes to the Slammer" at the Suffolk County House of Correction. Both are graduates of Harvard University: Harding has a Ph.D. in English literature; Jackson (who minored in English in college) has a Master's from the Kennedy School of Government. Dr. Harding taught English at UMass Boston for 10 years; Jackson, who has published articles in educational journals on teaching Shakespeare, has taught at Julie's Family Learning Center in South Boston. The duo led an OLLI course – "Shakespeare's Parent-Child Relationships" – in the fall of 2006.

**Date:** 8 Wednesdays, March 7 to April 25

**Time:** 1:00-3:00 pm

**Location:** UMass Boston, specific room will be announced

## **Let's Use Media Devices and the Internet**

This course is for students who have basic computer skills (including the Internet and email) and those who may or may not have a digital camera. The main focus won't be on how to use a digital camera per se, but on how to download pictures, where to store them, and how to send them via the Internet. First, we will begin with the introduction of how to use a digital camera. Next, we will try to download pictures from your digital camera (or I may provide you some sample pictures). Then, we may try to enhance or decorate those pictures and send them through email or try to store them on certain commercial web sites. The class will also include discussion and demonstration of how to use computer to listen to music and recording information such as pictures into a flash drive, CD, or DVD.

**Facilitator:** *Kaori Mitsui*

Kaori Mitsui is a doctoral student in the Ph.D. program in Gerontology at UMass Boston. A native of Japan, she has a B.A. in Psychology and M.A. in Gerontology. She completed her practicum at an adult day care center, and led a short-term exercise program at a long-term care facility. She conducted a workshop on Japan for OLLI in 2005.

**Date:** 6 Wednesdays, March 14 to April 25

**Time:** 1:00-2:30 pm

**Location:** UMass Boston Computer Lab, specific room will be announced

**Best Short Stories\***

We will discuss fifteen (15) stories selected from the book *“The Best American Short Stories 2006”*. Ed. Ann Patchett. This is a new edition this year in this series by Houghton Mifflin.

Order by ISBN – 13: 978-0-618-54352-6 (for paperback). Ann Patchett, this year’s editor, published four novels, including *Bel Canto*, and a memoir. We will study three stories per session to be chosen later.

**Facilitator:** *Ned Martin*

Ned Martin has been a student of literature since at least age four. He has a Master’s and Bachelor’s degree in English and education (Northwestern University) and a Master’s degree in Theology (University of Chicago). As an English teacher and minister, he has over forty-five years experience in teaching.

**Date:** 5 Wednesdays, March 21 to April 18

**Time:** 10:30-12:30 pm

**Location:** UMass Boston, specific room will be announced

*\*This class is also offered by Ned Martin at Cordage Park, Plymouth (see Monday classes)*

**Interweaving the Different Uses of a Computer**

The three most common uses of personal computers are the World Wide Web, e-mail, and word processing. This class will include some work with each of these features separately, but the main focus will be on ways in which they can be used to enrich each other. We’ll explore techniques for copying material quickly from one program to another and for sending and receiving e-mail attachments (and for avoiding opening “virus” messages by mistake). The class is open to anyone with some (not necessarily much) experience with computers.

**Facilitator:** *Jim O’Brien*

Jim O’Brien is a historian who taught in UMass Boston’s College of Public and Community Service from 1992 to 2006 and has been involved with Gerontology programs at UMass Boston since the early 1980s. He is fascinated by what computers can do (and by how many ways they can go wrong) and has taught computer courses in the OLLI (formerly LETS) program every semester since 2000.

**Date:** 5 Wednesdays, March 28 to April 25

**Time:** 10:00-11:30 am

**Location:** UMass Boston Computer Lab, specific room will be announced

## **Exploring the Potential of Microsoft Word**

This class is for people who have some experience using Microsoft Word (or any other computerized “word-processing” program) and would like to learn more. Besides accessing a full range of formatting options, students will learn to use such tools as spell-check, find and replace, footnotes, tables, accent marks, pictures, alphabetization, bulleted lists, etc. The class will also include practice in opening and sending e-mail attachments.

**Facilitator:** *Jim O’Brien*

See Jim O’Brien’s bio above

**Date:** 5 Wednesdays, May 2 to May 30

**Time:** 10:00-11:30 am

**Location:** UMass Boston Computer Lab, specific room will be announced

## **The Indigenous People of Australia: The History, Culture, and Social Issues of the Real People (VC)**

*Aborigine* is a Western term used to describe the indigenous people of any continent. For example, the Aborigines of Nova Scotia, or the Indians of the United States were western terms for the native people or original settlers: the indigenous. We will be discovering The Real People of Australia (the indigenous term for themselves). During our six-week program we will come to see the Real People as they are. They are alive and well, a vital part of a country and continent that almost lost them. We will learn through film, music, art, history, and their spirituality who these fascinating people are, and the social issues that face them today. Active participation will be fostered through open discussion, reading, and questioning, as well as written creative exercises such as responding to the Indigenous voices and their poetry with our own voices and poetry. We will also look for global parallels to the Indigenous experience to learn that we are not all as different as it may initially appear.

**Facilitator:** *Kathie Lee*

Kathie Lee has been an instructor at UMass Boston for 14 years in the Academic Support Department and has taught for OLLI since 2003. She has a Master’s degree in Education majoring in Special Needs. She is also a writer and a professional musician/music teacher. Her interest in the Indigenous People of Australia stems from long-time study in anthropology. She also teaches Indigenous Culture and Critical Thinking in the Directions for Student Potential (DSP) program.

**Date:** 6 Wednesdays, March 21 to April 25

**Time:** 11:00-12:30 pm

**Location:** UMass Boston, specific room will be announced

## **Advanced Internet (CDP)**

This course will involve certain more specialized areas of internet use, for example, using Google for a general search, Wikipedia for information on a specific subject, or YouTube to search for videos. The course will involve interaction by utilizing our webpage, where

students will have their own profiles to design however they like, and where they can see other students' spaces. In order to design their webpage, they will learn a basic amount of HTML. The goal of the course is to equip students with the tools to navigate the internet efficiently and with confidence.

**Facilitator:** *John Contrado*

John Contrado is an administrator for UMass Boston Division of Corporate, Continuing and Distance Education (CCDE) at Cordage Park site in Plymouth. He provides technical support and also operates the cameras and provides support for any distance learning courses in Plymouth. He is a student (English major) at UMass Boston.

**Date:** 5 Wednesdays, April 25 to May 23

**Time:** 1:30-3:00 pm

**Location:** Cordage Park, Plymouth, UMass Boston suite 201, Building 3