

CRWR 410 Fall 2017
KEVIN CANTY

Office / hours: LA130,
Wednesdays & Thursdays 1-3
Phone: 243-5162
Email: kevin.canty@mso.umt.edu

READING: The Granta Book of the American Short Story,
Richard Ford, ed. (Available at Shakespeare and Co.)

This is an advanced workshop in fiction writing. We will write stories, revise stories, talk about stories, read published stories and tell a few jokes along the way.

WRITING: I expect each of you to present at least three substantial stories to the workshop, a minimum of 36 pages total. I also expect you to write 150-300 words of comments on each of your compatriot's stories, as well as marginal notes when you run into a passage that particularly pleases or particularly offends you. I also ask that you revise one of these stories for a final project, due at the final exam time.

GRADING: Two-thirds on your fiction writing, one-third on comments on the stories of others, in writing and in class.

REQUIREMENTS: (1) Show up. You get two free absences, after that each additional absence will knock your final grade down one letter. (2) Do the work, especially the written comments on other people's stories, and participate in class discussion. (3) Don't plagiarize. You fail if I catch you, obviously. (4) Meet with me in my office a couple of times during the semester, especially if you're feeling persecuted, stuck, confused or helpless. (5) Be kind, not mushy but sympathetic. Civil. Critical but decent. Remember: it's your turn soon enough.

DISABILITY INFORMATION: Qualified students with disabilities will receive appropriate accommodations in this course. Please come and see me. Be prepared to provide a letter from your DSS Coordinator.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

- Gain an understanding of the essential craft techniques of short fiction
- Write original short fiction, primarily stories, and submit for critical discussion by peers and the instructor.
- Analyze and discuss the work of other students in a workshop format, identifying both positive qualities and suggested revision.
- Read and discuss professional examples of short fiction
- Assemble a portfolio of short fiction completed and revised during the semester, for evaluation by the instructor.