

## INTRODUCTION TO NARRATIVE CREATION: THE GAME OF FICTION

Teacher: Silvestre Vilaplana

The aim of this workshop is to learn the different mechanisms available to writers in order to create attractive, enjoyable texts, as well as to discover how to build a narration that truly touches readers and which literary techniques are used in novels and tales, to then use all these tools to create texts and fictions.

### PROGRAMME

- Basic tools for creation.
- The narrator's focus.
- Topics, plots and myths.
- The long road to character building.
- Language and style.
- Plots and dialogues.
- Rhythm and narrative tension structures.
- Stage construction: space and atmosphere.
- Action narrative. How to build up intrigue and mystery.
- Historical narrative. Swindlers and the swindled.
- Impossible worlds.
- Beginnings and ends.

### OBJECTIVES

- Exploring the characteristics of literary language.
- Acquiring basic style resources used in literary languages.
- Knowing the basic historical grounds of literary evolution in terms of genres and structures.
- Acknowledging and interpreting literary strategies in texts written by themselves and by others.
- Increasing critical reading and analysis skills.
- Getting to know the requirements, grounds and mechanisms in narrative.
- Learning the basic story writing mechanisms.
- Learning how to organise the elements in a story according to narrative criteria.
- Adquirir tècniques i estratègies narratives.

### METHODS

Both theory and practical activities will be given in class. First, a theory explanation will be provided, and then the technical elements involved in all stages in narrative creation will be analysed.

Using texts, images and film samples to complete explanations, students will learn about the different structures used in narrative, as well as in literature in general, and understand them within the specific framework of literary works. Afterwards, students will apply this knowledge to their own writing, with the help of the teacher.

This workshop will be tailor-made to fit the students' expectations, and will help them know the theory behind narrative creation while at the same time discovering and creating texts that will be adapted to the group's interests.

The best writing technique is to let your imagination fly and play with words. For this reason, this workshop will focus on developing imagination in the field of writing, fostering the students' ability to imagine, invent and modify situations, characters and plots, thus stimulating a creative process that will be then applied to the students' own written works. After all, literature is a game whose rules can be learned, and the best way to do so is through practice. Examples will be used to boost the students' creativity, and they will be able to incorporate this new knowledge into their future works.

## MATERIALS

Participants will be given a series of texts to be used throughout the workshop as means of example or as the base for activities.

## TARGET AUDIENCE

University students and anybody from outside the university community who is interested in discovering and enjoying the creation process behind literary works.

## ASSESSMENT

Continuous assessment where each student's progress and knowledge acquisition (both theoretical and practical) will be taken into account.

## HOUR BREAKDOWN:

- From 23 February to 17 March 2016
  - Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4.30 to 7 p.m.
  - 8 sessions
  - 20 hours – 2 CECLEC-ECTS credits
  - 20 ICE hours
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- 23 and 25 February
  - 1, 3, 8, 10, 15 and 17 March

VENUE: GB/1002 room (Germán Bernácer building)

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### PLEASE NOTE.

IN ORDER TO OBTAIN THE COURSE CERTIFICATE, STUDENTS MUST:

- \*ATTEND AT LEAST 80% OF TOTAL COURSE HOURS
  - \*HAVE PAID FOR COURSE FEES
  - PASS TEACHER'S ASSESSMENT TEST
  - \*COMPLETE COURSE SATISFACTION SURVEY
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