



Course Title: IMAGINATION UNLEASHED: CREATIVE WRITING IN ENGLAND AND IRELAND

Program and Date: Summer 2025 England & Ireland: May 27, 2025 —June 12, 2025

Academic Department: English/Creative Writing

Instructor Name: Professor Julia Johnson

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Get to Know Your Professor

Julia Johnson, a native of New Orleans, earned a B.A. from Hollins College and an M.F.A. in Creative Writing from The University of Virginia, where she was a Henry Hoyns Fellow. Johnson is the author of the poetry collections *Naming the Afternoon*, published by Louisiana State University Press, which won the George Garrett Fellowship of Southern Writers New Writing Award, *The Falling Horse*, published by Factory Hollow Press, and most recently *Subsidence*. Her poems have appeared in *The Cincinnati Review*, *Poetry International*, *Sentence: A Journal of Prose Poetics*, *jubilat*, *Tin House*, and numerous other journals and anthologies. She is Professor of English at UK, where she teaches courses in the undergraduate creative writing program and in the MFA program in creative Writing in the Department of English. She studied abroad in London as an undergraduate at Hollins College and has led creative writing abroad programs in France and in Ireland.

Course Description

In this intensive, multi-genre, creative writing workshop-based course, with Dublin and London as classrooms and the landscapes of Ireland and England as inspiration, you will be immersed in Irish and British literature, drama, visual arts, music, and culture. Explore the great cities of Dublin and London, from the chambers of St. Patrick's Cathedral to the Long Room of Trinity College, from the sound of the bells of the Big Ben to the echoing tombs of Westminster Abbey, experiencing all that these historically and culturally rich places have to offer, all while broadening your imagination and fueling your creative writing.

Course Level

Undergraduate; honors.



Prerequisite(s)

n/a

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of all coursework with a passing grade and full participation in course activities, students shall be able to:

1. *demonstrate* active engagement with the creative process by creating and submitting creative nonfiction, fiction, and poems.
2. *read and discuss* various published creative works.
3. *learn and apply* basic tools, forms, "rules," and literary elements of the three genres being studied.
4. *judge* the effectiveness and limits of the aforementioned as they create works for an audience.
5. *apply* the skills of close reading, editing, and proofreading in preparing creative works for an audience.
6. *critique* the work of peer writers.
7. *become* better readers of their own and others' works.
8. *participate* in discourse about creative writing in general and discuss creative writing using appropriate terms knowledgeably and confidently.
9. *demonstrate* mastery of the terminology and analytical procedures in both peer critiques and their own creative work appropriate to workshopping.
10. *evaluate* the results of their own creative writing and use that evaluation to refine their own works.

Required Readings and Materials

(You may download these electronically if you prefer)

The Penguin Book of Irish Poetry

Dubliners by James Joyce (Penguin Edition, ISBN-10: 0140186476)

The Granta Book of The Irish Short Story (Anne Enright, Editor)

Bound journal which can be easily carried in backpack or small bag/purse

Laptop or tablets are not required but you may bring one if you like

access to Google Classroom

access to EMAIL



Assignments and Grades

I. JOURNAL/ASSIGNED WRITINGS= 25% of final grade

The Journal (a small bound notebook) is where in which you will do IN-CLASS WRITING and you might also handwrite in your journal your creative writing that is due in class. If you choose to do the assigned work electronically, you must post to Google Classroom. Bring your Journal to every class activity or meeting.

II. RESPONSE JOURNAL/PRE-DEPARTURE ASSIGNMENTS=25% of final grade

Responses to the texts. There will be a fair amount of reading that we will use to inform our own writing assignments. Responding to the texts in a timely manner is required. Details on each assignment will be discussed via email before departure and during class meetings

II PARTICIPATION= 25% of final grade

It should be apparent at all times that you are participating in class activities, reading, and responding to all work by your peers, completing the writing exercises, doing the Journal writing, and reading all assigned pages in our texts--etc..

III. POST PROGRAM PORTFOLIO = 25% of final grade

The portfolio will contain a selection of polished, revised work from the course. Format for the work will be discussed in class and shown in our text. The portfolio will be due within 1 week of our return. A collective letter grade will be given to the portfolio as a whole. Failure to submit a complete portfolio will result in an E for your final grade.

Grading Scale

The following scale will be used to compute your grade.

See above

Onsite Learning Experiences and Activities

Onsite learning experiences in this class will likely include the following site visits. This is a tentative list which will be replaced with a detailed daily itinerary of class meetings and field trips prior to the departure date.



Tower of London
London Walks Bohemian Bloomsbury
British Library Treasures Tour
Shakespeare's Globe Theatre
Westminster Abbey
Hyde Park
Trinity College Dublin (Long Room)
Dublin Writers Museum
St. Patrick's Cathedral
Dublin walking tour
Phoenix Park

Attendance Policy

Attendance is mandatory at all scheduled activities and class meetings as well as field trip excursions. This includes any virtual meetings before and after the onsite experience. Repeated absences, including for ill health, will require documentation to be excused.

This is a Creative Writing course in which discussion, listening, in-class writing, participation, and in-class participation are essential. Any unexcused absence will result in a reduction in your grade.

Participation includes not just attending class but also having a positive engagement in all class activities (such as contributing to class discussion intelligently and responding creatively to field trip experiences).

Academic Integrity Policy

All work produced in this course must be original and entirely your own. Plagiarism is not allowed. Any use of this practice will result in a failing grade.

Physical Expectations

Program requires walking 3-5 miles per day on uneven pavement in all kinds of weather and long periods of standing. Students must be able to carry their own bags/belongings.



Disability Accommodation

CCSA is committed to providing access to education abroad to the extent possible in a study abroad setting. The earlier CCSA and the faculty know the needs, the more likely we can accommodate them. At a minimum, students seeking accommodations are to contact both the CCSA office and the faculty one month in advance of the program's beginning. Students seeking such accommodation must provide CCSA with a copy of the letter on file with their own Office of Disability Services outlining what services they receive on their home campus.

Title IX Policy

Sexual misconduct (including sexual harassment, sexual assault, and any nonconsensual behavior of a sexual nature) and sexual discrimination violate CCSA policies. Students experiencing such behavior may obtain support from the Onsite Program Director or the CCSA Executive Director. To report sexual misconduct or sex discrimination, contact either of these two officers. Disclosure to faculty instructors or CCSA officers of sexual misconduct, domestic violence, dating violence, or sex discrimination occurring on the program or involving a visitor, student or employee is not confidential under Title IX. Faculty and other CCSA employees are required to forward such reports, including names and circumstances, to the CCSA Executive Director.

Statement about Final Syllabus

Please note that all CCSA syllabi are subject to change, but every effort will be made to ensure participants receive notice of such changes in a timely manner.