

An Invitation to Bring a Literary Course to Your Community

A one-page portfolio for the program director, librarian, festival curator, community-college dean, or bookstore events coordinator considering a working writer as an instructor.

SECTION I

What I Can Do for Your Audience

I am a Philadelphia novelist and Professor Emeritus of English with more than three decades of classroom experience — undergraduate seminars, graduate workshops, secondary AP classes, and a fully funded Writing Fellowship at Exeter College, University of Oxford. I have chaired departments in both English and Social Studies. My novel *Give Them Unquiet Dreams* received a **Kirkus starred review** and was named a **Kirkus Best Book of 2019**. I founded Silver Current Press.

What I bring is a body of literature-and-craft courses for adult readers who are not looking for a degree. Every course is discussion-based, generous, close in its reading, and non-competitive. When a course lands well at a new venue, I am glad to offer the first offering without charge as a proof of concept; ongoing terms are shaped to fit the host.

SECTION II

Credentials at a Glance

TRADE REVIEW Kirkus Starred Review <i>Give Them Unquiet Dreams · Kirkus Best Book of 2019</i>	FELLOWSHIP Exeter College, Oxford <i>Fully funded creative-writing fellowship</i>	NOMINATION Pushcart Prize <i>Fiction, 2017</i>
RECOGNITION Aesthetica Shortlist <i>Creative Writing Award, poetry, 2021</i>	TEACHING 30+ Years, All Levels <i>College and secondary; former Department Chair</i>	PUBLISHING Silver Current Press <i>Founder; Philadelphia literary imprint</i>

SECTION III

The Courses I Can Teach

Every course can be adapted to a partner venue's calendar and audience — full sixteen-session series, four-session workshops, single evening talks, or one-day masterclasses.

COURSE	FOCUS	SESSIONS	GENRE
Survey of American Literature	Indigenous voices and Puritan sermons to contemporary writing	16	Literary Survey
Women in American Literature	Bradstreet to Morrison; the writers who make the canon whole	16	Literary Survey
Minority Voices in American Literature	Douglass to Ocean Vuong; Black, Latinx, Asian American, Native voices	16	Literary Survey
Jewish Writers: A Literary Tradition	Aleichem, Kafka, Bellow, Malamud, Ozick, Amichai	16	Literary Survey
The Irish Literary Imagination	Táin and Swift to Yeats, Joyce, Heaney, Boland	16	Literary Survey
Literature & American History	Each week pairs a historical document with a literary answer	16	Interdisciplinary
Reading Poetry: A Beginner's Welcome	Unhurried introduction for anyone locked out of poetry	16	Reading Workshop
Shakespeare's Sonnets & Famous Speeches	Sixteen sonnets paired with sixteen monologues	16	Reading Workshop
The Personal Essay & Memoir	Writing from a life — read and write across sixteen sessions	16	Writing Workshop
The Craft of Revision	Bring pages; read them aloud; cut, sharpen, send out	16	Writing Workshop
The Writing Life: Getting Published	Literary magazines, cover letters, queries, agents, small presses	16	Writing Workshop
The Art of Telling	Short story, poetry, and memoir — three genres in ten sessions	10	Writing Workshop

SECTION IV

How I Can Deliver a Course

In person — libraries, bookstores, community centers, universities, retirement communities, and literary nonprofits.

Online — by Zoom or a comparable platform.

Hybrid — a combination of in-person and online continuation, tailored to the host's calendar.

Formats — full sixteen-session series, four-session workshops, single evening author talks, or one-day masterclasses.

What I supply. Syllabus, discussion questions, close-reading passages, revision checklists, and — if useful — a live classroom whiteboard at whiteboard.silvercurrentpress.com. All readings drawn from the public domain or open-access sources; students never need to buy a book.

HOW TO SAY YES

The simplest way to explore a partnership is a short email — the venue, an approximate audience size, and a proposed date window. I will reply within two business days.

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