

Advanced English: Navigating Narratives with Cross-Genre Storytelling from the Page to the Stage

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This theme-based 12-week language course develops written and oral skills for C1 and C2 level students through the study of cross-genre narratives.

Background

From ancient myths to contemporary streaming series, documentaries, articles, music and podcasts, students focus on developing memorable communicative professional writing, speeches, and improvisational storytelling through various cross-genre forms. In class, students study influential figures to motivate automatic writing, collective revision, argumentative analysis, and investigative research into what exactly makes Cross-Genre narratives so effective. By focusing on emotive emphasis in oratorical aspects of speech, students learn to produce memorable multi-genre writing and public performances.

Course objectives

This course will improve narrative comprehension, public speaking while expanding awareness and utilisation of cross-genre imaginative possibilities for communicating on a variety of difficult topics with unpredictable and persuasive storytelling/performance techniques. By studying, discussing, creating and performing cross-genre works, students will strengthen their fluency, and artistic sensibility to develop memorable professional writing and oratorical performances in English that will be effective in any creative or professional domain they find themselves.

Course description

Each class begins with a brief automatic writing assignment in reaction to the homework. Students then briefly present their automatic writing and critique each other's work by identifying and discussing the most difficult or memorable aspects to apply in their own writing and performances. Addressing and practising strategies for overcoming difficult aspects of writing and public speaking eventually leads us to apply solutions through improvisational presentations. Students will often discuss and write detail-oriented short stories, blurbs, reviews, articles, or posts about works of art, music, contemporary politics, ancient history, or sci-fi to best design and deliver the most impactful narratives.

Organization

For evaluations, students compile their cross-genre assignments, revise them and develop a professional portfolio to pitch and present to the class for analysis and contemplation. Their brief preface/introduction to their portfolio will address the influence of cross-genre materials on their work, their difficulties and solutions achieved in writing and performing. The evaluation of their work will be based on class participation and linguistic competency in listening, reading, speaking, writing and imagination.