Aspiring novelists can learn secrets of craft via e-mail

University of Montana–Missoula. Office of University Relations
MISSOULA--

Continuing Education at The University of Montana has just launched a course for aspiring novelists who want to learn the secrets of their craft without commuting to campus.

New this fall via e-mail or regular mail, The Secret of Writing a Novel That Plays Like a Film in Your Head is designed to help students learn the craft and technique to begin a novel and develop the confidence to end it, keeping the reader's attention throughout. Novelist Colin Hester, author of "Diamond Sutra," is the instructor.

The format consists of seven sections. Each of the first five sections has an assignment that can be done in two weeks. The other sections should take at least three weeks. Assignments will cover such topics as scene setting, plot line, character development, transitions and dialogue. Hester will send detailed instructions to each student of where to begin and end with each assignment. Students also will receive step-by-step instructions on how to find a literary agent.

The course offers three undergraduate credits, costs $495 and will start as soon as eight students register. Students can earn a letter grade or take the course pass/no pass.

To register, visit the Web site at http://www.umt.edu/ccesp/novel or call (406) 243-2705.

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