

Spring 2-1-2017

## CRWR 234.01: The Oval - Literary Magazine Studio

Robert Stubblefield

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**ENCR 234 Section 01**  
**The Oval: Literary Magazine Studio**  
**Spring 2017**

**Instructor:** Robert Stubblefield

Office: Corbin 339

Email: robert.stubblefield@umontana.edu

Office hours: Monday 4-6:00 p.m., Tuesday 2:00-3:00 p.m., Wednesday 3:00-5:00 p.m. and by appointment.

**Teaching Assistant:** Sarah Aronson

Email: sarahbaronson@gmail.com

Office: Corbin 339

Office hours: Tuesday 1-3:00 p.m., and by appointment

**Classroom:** Lommasson 272 (Undergraduate Advising Office Suite)

**Class Meeting Time:** Monday, 6:00-8:50 p.m.

**Required Text and Materials:** *Writing in General and the Short Story in Particular:*

Rust Hills. *The Making of a Poem:* Mark Strand and Eavan Boland

A journal and folder for compiling all exercises and in-class and out-of-class responses and assignments. You must have access to UM Online for required readings and postings.

**Course Objectives:**

This course is open to undergraduates who have completed at least one course in Creative Writing (CRWR). The class will be conducted in a studio format. We will focus on the editing, design, layout, and marketing of *The Oval*, The University of Montana undergraduate literary magazine. The opening portion of the class will focus on researching a sampling of literary journals from across the region and nation. We will also read, discuss, and develop responses to works published in well-established, wide-circulation literary magazines. We will individually and collectively develop criteria for content and design and each student will be expected to document and defend their aesthetic for chosen criteria. The class will include the evaluation and selection of prose, poetry, and visual art submissions to *The Oval*. Students will have both independent and collaborative responsibilities within and outside of class. The latter portion of the semester will include producing *The Oval* on deadline, scheduling launch events, and working cooperatively with sponsors and partners including The Mansfield Library, ASUM, and University of Montana Printing and Graphics.

**Course Requirements:**

- **Writing Exercises:** All writing exercises and assignments will be turned in on the date due and must be typed and double-spaced with one-inch margins. Responses and exercises will focus on specific manuscripts and/or components or be of a specified length. Keep these in your portfolio upon return.
- **Journal:** I expect you to keep a reading journal to develop and document informed, thoughtful responses to the texts and readings. Although we will not

- ask you to turn in these journals, we will occasionally ask for a typed excerpt (one page or less).
- Major Assignments (Portfolio): You will compile a portfolio including responses to texts and submissions in at least two genres, critiques of publications, and submission for *Oval* staff issue.

### **Grading/Evaluation:**

You will be evaluated based on your active participation in class, performance regarding Oval activities and responsibilities, exercises and assignments, and your portfolio. **DO NOT MISS MORE THAN ONE (1) CLASS OR YOUR GRADE WILL BE AFFECTED**

- **40%** of your grade is based on active participation. Show up prepared, comment on required readings and the work of your peers, and contribute to the community of the classroom and Oval.
- **30%** of your grade is based on successful and timely completion of all assignments. These will include responses to readings, reviews, and manuscript evaluations. Assignments must be completed and submitted on time and all out-of-class work typed and double-spaced. You will receive credit for and responses to your exercises, but not a letter grade.
- **30%** of your grade is based on your final portfolio. Demonstrate the ability to incorporate course objectives, effectively critique manuscripts, and articulate and defend responses to submissions.

All work submitted in this course must be your own and be written exclusively for this course. All students must practice academic honesty. Academic misconduct is subject to an academic penalty by the course instructor and/or a disciplinary sanction by the University. All students need to be familiar with the Student Conduct Code. The Code is available for review online at:

[http://life.umt.edu/vpsa/student\\_conduct.php](http://life.umt.edu/vpsa/student_conduct.php)

### **Students with Disabilities**

Qualified students with disabilities will receive appropriate accommodations in this course. Please speak with me privately after class or in my office. Please be prepared to provide a letter from your DSS Coordinator.

### **Important Dates and Deadlines:**

Monday, February 20, Presidents Day, No Class

Monday-Friday, March 20-24, Spring Break

Monday, May 8, Final Meeting

Deadlines: Access this link for information on drop/add deadlines and policies.

<http://www.umt.edu/registrar/students/dropadd.php>

**Extracurricular Opportunities:**

Missoula is a vibrant literary community. Although not required, I suggest you take advantage of readings, conferences, and gatherings occurring this semester. I will announce upcoming events, but keep in mind the Second Wind Reading Series each Sunday night. Readings are frequently held on campus and at local bookstores.

**Calendar (Tentative)**

Monday, January 23: Introductions and discussion of goals and objectives, previous successes and failures, and presentation of timelines. Tabling, publicizing submissions, ASUM budgeting, classroom visits, editorial boards, Aerie Reading, Callan Wink Reading?

Monday, January 30: *The Making of a Poem*, pages 1-120.

Monday, February 6: *The Making of a Poem*, pages 121-335. Presentation of poetry selections from selected literary journals.

Monday, February 13: *Writing in General and The Short Story in Particular*. Presentation of short fiction and non-fiction selections from literary journals. Submission reading begins.

Monday, February 20: Presidents Day. No Class.

Monday, February 27: In-class board meetings and preliminary selection discussions. Introduction of Layout template. Manuscript selection continues.

Monday, March 6: Board State of the Oval presentations. Manuscript selections finalized and presented. Page proofs edited and distributed to contributors. Draft presented for proofing and final edits.

Monday, March 13: Final edits and page proof editing, proofreading, and approval for presentation to U of M Printing and Graphics before Spring Break!

Monday March 20: Spring Break. No Class

Monday, March 27: Introduction to Staff Issue guidelines and editorial board assignments. Marketing and Publicity scheduling and event assigning

Monday April 3: Manuscript selection for Staff Issue

Monday, April 10: Manuscript selections finalized for Staff Issue and Draft presented for proofing and final edits

Monday, April 17: Editing/Poetry Corner Event

Monday, April 24: Staff Issue Layout and online posting.

Monday, May 1: Staff Readings and launch of Staff Issue

Monday, May 8: Final Meeting. Evaluation and Planning.

Other important dates:

Poetry Corner Events: TBA

Oval Launch and Poetry for Lunch in collaboration with Mansfield Library: TBA (mid-April)