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THTR 580.01: Problems in Playwriting

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School of Theatre & Dance
THTR 580 Problems in Playwriting
Autumn 2017 F 2-4:50
Dr. Randy Bolton, randy.bolton@umontana.edu McGill 212A x2880
Office: MWF 11-2

Purpose/Intent/Criteria

This experience is a workshop in creative writing—dramatic writing. The criteria is based on dramatic structure—conflict, tension, and character complexities/psychology. These are the essentials of story. What are the characters after? What do they have to get for their life? What is most critical to them? What are they willing to do to get what they must have? How badly do we want to know what happens next?

The goal/outcome is to write more regularly and more pages than you have before in previous workshops.

Texts:

Story. Robert McKee. Reagan Books, Harper Collins.
Triggering Town. Richard Hugo
Elements of Style. Strunk & White
The New Yorker magazine

Plays and other sources sought out by you

Final Product:

Two completed pieces 20-25 minutes each, or one piece 40-50 minutes.

Final Session: Tuesday, December 19 1:10-3:10