**Spring Overview.**

Dear Novelists:

Welcome back. You’re halfway there, and now for the finish. Once you’ve written a draft of a novel, you’re a novelists for life, and no one can ever take that away from you. Steel yourself for remaining effort. We–your peer novelists–are with you on this.

Please review your contract for Novel Writing Workshop and note that you have agreed to the commitment through Spring term. You will be required to log onto Canvas between 4:30 and 5:30 a.m. each weekday to demonstrate that you are with the workshop writing for the day. You will be allowed three missed log ins for the semester before losing participation credit. As well, each week, no later than noon Friday, have posted your ten pages that have been written that week for that week. You will receive a peer reading weekly--take heed of the criticisms as you move forward. For those up in workshop, please have your workshop chapter in hard copy to pass out the workshop prior to your workshop date (in my box no later than Monday for the first group of workshopees). In workshop, kindly articulate a thorough critique of the workshop pieces–noting that a “critique” criticizes. Engage, readers. Those of you who are up in workshop should not mistake critique of your chapter as a critique–or antagonism--of you. Simply put–you are not your text. The workshop’s heartblood is strong, honest criticism, and this should not be considered as disrespect. Humor, kindly practice it often as you can.

Beginning week three we’ll be discussing Stegner’s *Angle of Repose*. Each of you should come to class prepared to lead and participate in an in-depth discussion on some facet for the given week. The book is both complex and grounded–come prepared to get knee deep in it. Quizzes are fair game. As well, we’ll riffing off Stegner during our weekly scales.

John Cheever said that “a page of good prose is invincible...” Toward such, every assignment we do in this class is all about honing your prose. Good prose shines in many ways. Please believe that it is easily distinguishable, especially by those who’ve made themselves into word people. As such, the assigned exercises–our Scales--if done thoroughly with verve, will result in clean, clear prose. I will assign them as they become necessary. Do not expect your writing mentor/professor to “grade” and return said assignments. I’m looking toward the prose results as manifest in the weekly writing and, ultimately, in the finished novel due our final class on Good Friday, 4.19.

Weekly conferences will continue, mandatory for those whose chapters were workshopped the previous week, though I encourage to come have a talk every chance you get. I’m there, waiting, happy to talk about your work.
Reading Partners for Spring.

In order to simplify the weekly peer reading assignment, the following will be partners for the first half of the term, though you are strongly encouraged to read and respond to other members of class. After week 8, we’ll reevaluate and assign—perhaps—new reading partners. Please read and evaluate your partner weekly—in a hundred words or less—regarding point of view, structure, language/tone, conflict and character. Your assignment for week one is to Big Picture evaluate the first 150 from your reading partner in a 2-3 page piece that thoroughly analyzes the first half in terms of pov, struc, lang/tone, char and conflict. Here goes for the first eight weeks:

Clark/Tosha. Jasmine/Ashley. Abby/Karishma/Ivana. Jack/Michelle

Grading.

50%. Writing Regiment/10 new pages per week, approx. 300 pages due at semester’s end.
50%. Participation/weekly workshop engagement/exercises/peer readings/Stegner discussions, daily log ins including a roll call post by 5:30 and a subsequent brief discussion of your writing day.

I keep a daily/weekly tab on both the writing regiment and participation. I’m happy to meet with you during my office hour and tell you exactly where you stand grade-wise in class. Please know that I am available for one on one meetings often you need.

Students with Disabilities/Nondiscrimination Statement.

The University of Utah seeks to provide equal access to its programs, services and activities for people with disabilities. If you will need accommodations in the class, reasonable prior notice needs to be given to the Center for Disability Services, 162 Olpin Union Building, 581-5020 (V/TDD). CDS will work with you and the instructor to make arrangements for accommodations. All written information in this course can be made available in alternative format with prior notification to the Center for Disability Services.

Accommodation Policy.

No content accommodations will be made for this course. It is the student’s obligation to determine, before the last day to drop courses without penalty, if the requirements of this course conflict with the student's sincerely-held core beliefs. If there is such a conflict, the student should consider dropping the class. Please visit the Administration Policy and Procedures Website (http://www.admin.utah.edu/facdev/index.html) and look under Accommodations Policy for complete details.

Addressing Sexual Misconduct.

Title IX makes it clear that violence and harassment based on sex and gender (which includes sexual orientation and gender identity/expression) is a Civil Rights offense subject to the same kinds of accountability and the same kinds of support applied to offenses against other protected
categories such as race, national origin, color, religion, age, status as a person with a disability, veteran’s status or genetic information. Furthermore, even though this is a fiction workshop, sexual references to other members of the class, including the professor, are deemed inappropriate and could be considered harassment. If you or someone you know has been harassed or assaulted, you are encouraged to report it to the Title IX Coordinator in the Office of Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action, 135 Park Building, 801-581-8365, or the Office of the Dean of Students, 270 Union Building, 801-581-7066. For support and confidential consultation, contact the Center for Student Wellness, 426 SSB, 801-581-7776. To report to the police, contact the Department of Public Safety, 801-585-2677(COPS).

**Schedule.**

**Week One**

Due. 160 p.
Debrief week/break
Cover Spring Syllabus/Schedule
Scale Exercise
Intro/Stegner.
Sign Up/Undergraduate Research Symposium/Formal Reading/4.9, 9-2:30.

**Week Two**

Due. 170 p.
Debrief
Scales
Stegner Discussion/1
Big Picture Workshops. Clark, Jasmine, Karishma, Jack, Tosha

**Week Three**

Due. 180 p.
Debrief
Scales
Stegner Discussion/2
Big Picture Workshops. Abby, Michele, Ivana, Ashley

**Week Four**

Due. 190 p.
Debrief
Scale
Stegner Discussion/3
Workshop: Clark, Tosha
Week Five

Due. 200 p.
Debrief
Scales
Stegner Discussion/4
Workshop: Jasmine, Ashley

Week Six

Due. 210 p.
Debrief
Scales
Stegner Discussion/5
Workshop: Abby, Karisha, Ivana

Week Seven

Due. 220 p.
Debrief
Assign Midterm evaluation/analysis.
Scales
Stegner Discussion/6
Workshop: Jack, Michele

Week Eight

Due. 230 p.
Debrief
Due. Midterm evaluation/analysis of novel.
New Reading Partners.
Stegner Discussion/7
Workshop: tba

Week Nine

Due. 240 p.
Debrief
Scales
Stegner Discussion/8
Workshop: tba

Week Ten
Week Eleven

Due 260 p.
Debrief
Scales
Stegner Discussion/9
Prep/AWP, Portland
Workshop.  tba.

Week Twelve

Due.  270 p.

Week Thirteen

Due.  280 p.
Debrief AWP/Portland
Scales.
Final Revision Strategies
Workshop.  tba.

Week Fourteen

4.9, 9-2:30, Undergraduate Research Syposium/Formal Readings
Due.  290 p.
Debrief
CONFERENCES/Gills’ Office.

Week Fifteen

Signing Party.
Fin.