Master of Fine Arts
CREATIVE WRITING
MURRAY STATE UNIVERSITY

JANUARY 2012 RESIDENCY SCHEDULE

Friday, January 6

8:00 – 3:00 p.m.	Thesis Defense (Faculty Hall Conference Room, Suite C)
2:30 – 4:00 p.m.	Registration (Curris Center, first floor)
3:30 – 5:00 p.m.	Orientation Meeting: Required for new students (Tennessee Room - Curris Center)
5:30 – 7:00 p.m.	Opening Banquet and Welcome (The Stables-Curris Center)
7:30 – 8:30 p.m.	Reading: MFA Graduates – (Clara M. Eagle Art Gallery) *Jolene Barto, Heather Foster, Corrie Smith*
8:30 – 10 p.m.	Graduate Celebration – Dessert and Champagne (Faculty Club) (Honoring Constance Alexander, Jonathan Ashley, Corrie Smith, Jolene Barto, Melissa Blankenship and Heather Foster)

Saturday, January 7

9:00 – 9:30 a.m. Program-Wide Meeting: Students, Mentors, and Program Director (Faculty Hall 208)

10:00 a.m.–12 p.m. First meeting with Faculty Mentor and Workshop Writing Group: Introductions, Receive Manuscripts, Schedule and Guidelines.

Fiction 1: Dale Ray Phillips (Faculty Hall 105)

Fiction 2: Lynn Pruett (Faculty Hall 107)

Fiction 3: Tommy Hays Hays (Faculty Hall 503)

Fiction 4: Martin Roper (Faculty Hall 504)

Creative Nonfiction 2: Karen McElmurray (Faculty Hall 106)

Poetry 1: Carrie Jerrell (Faculty Hall 206)

Poetry 2: Blas Falconer (Faculty Hall 207)

1:00 – 2:30 p.m. Genre Seminar: Poetry - Kelley Wezner (FH 206)

Derek Walcott's epic poem *Omeros*

This seminar will focus on Derek Walcott's epic poem *Omeros*, with particular attention to his versatile use of language and structure, and inventive reinterpretation of Homeric allusions and techniques.

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2:30 – 4:00 p.m. Genre Seminar: Creative Nonfiction – Paul Walker (FH 105)

Nature Writing in Canyon Country

We will read selections from Edward Abbey's *Desert Solitaire*, Wallace Stegner's *The Sound of Mountain Water*, and Terry Tempest Williams' *Red*. Each of these authors takes a different approach in describing, praising, and disturbing the remote, Redrock canyons of the Colorado Plateau, sharing an honest realism about their wild "home" rather than a far-off idealism of wilderness. We will discuss their approaches in terms of general conventions of nature writing as well as the humor, politics, and eroticism found in their work.

4:00 – 5:30 p.m. Genre Seminar: Fiction - Tim Johns (FH 106)

J. M. Coetzee's *Disgrace* and Short Fiction from South Africa

This seminar focuses on J. M. Coetzee's *Disgrace*, a variety of South African short stories, and the legacy of apartheid in South Africa. While apartheid—a form of white minority rule that ended in South Africa in 1994—inspired a fair share of committed, didactic political writing, it also fostered a brilliant tradition in prose fiction. Indeed, two Nobel Prize winners in literature have so far emerged from this tradition: J. M. Coetzee and Nadine Gordimer. In our seminar, we will examine how the elevated craft of Coetzee's novel, as well as rich stories by Gordimer and others, function within the constraints of apartheid's harrowing legacy.

7:30 – 8:30 p.m. Reading: MFA Graduates (Clara M. Eagle Art Gallery)

Connie Alexander, Melissa Blankenship, Jonathan Ashley

8:30 - 10:00 p.m. Reception (Faculty Club)

Sunday, January 8

9:00 – 11:45 a. m. Workshop with Mentor and Writing Group

1:00 – 2:30 p.m. Craft Lecture: Bobby Rogers (FH 208)

At the Edges of Free Verse: Prose Poetry and Prosy Poetry

A Consideration of prose poetry and long-lined free verse

3:00 – 5:00 p.m. General Meeting for all MFA students (FH 208)

7:30 – 8:30 p.m. Reading: Bobby Rogers (Clara M Eagle Art Gallery)

8:30 – 10:00 p.m. Reception – (Faculty Club)

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JANUARY 2012 RESIDENCY SCHEDULE

Monday, January 9

9:00 –11:45 a.m.	Workshop with Mentor and Writing Group
1:00 – 2:30 p.m.	Genre Seminar: Fiction (FH106)
2:30 – 4:00 p.m.	Genre Seminar: Creative Nonfiction (FH 105)
4:00 – 5:30 p.m.	Genre Seminar: Poetry (FH 206)
7:30 – 8:30 p.m.	MFA Reading: Nick Flynn (Clara M. Eagle Art Gallery)
8:30 – 10:00 p.m.	Reception (Faculty Club)

Tuesday, January 10

9:00 – 11:45 a.m.	Workshop with Mentor and Writing Group
1:00 – 2:30 p.m.	Craft Lecture: Padma Viswanathan (FA208) *From Where I Stand: Some thoughts on perspective in narrative prose*
3:00 – 4:00 p.m.	Meeting for Field Study: Ann Neelon (FH105)
3:00 - 5:00 p.m.	Scheduled conferences with mentors
7:30 – 8:30 p.m.	Reading: Padma Viswanathan (Clara M. Eagle Art Gallery)
8:30 – 10 p.m.	Reception (Faculty Club)

Wednesday, January 11

9:00 – 11:45 a.m.	Workshop with Mentor and Writing Group
1:00 – 2:30 p.m.	Genre Seminar: Fiction
2:30 – 4:00 p.m.	Genre Seminar: Creative Nonfiction (FH 105)
4:00 – 5:30 p.m.	Genre Seminar: Poetry (FH 206)
6:00 p.m.	Mentors/Director Dinner Meeting: Gloria's
	Free Evening for students

Thursday, January 12

9:00 – 11:45 a.m.	Workshop with Mentor and Writing Group
1:00 – 2:30 p.m.	Craft Lecture: (FH 208) Caroline Casey *Conventions of Form in Nonfiction*
2:45 – 4:45p.m.	Scheduled conferences with mentors.
5:00 – 6:00 p.m.	MFA Faculty Reading: Blas Falconer (Clara M. Eagle Art Gallery)
6:00 -7:00 p.m.	Beer and Pizza – Faculty Club
7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Bowling – Corvette Bowling Lanes across from campus

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JANUARY 2012 RESIDENCY SCHEDULE

Friday, January 13

9:00 - 11:45 a.m.	Workshops with Mentor and Writing Group
11:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.	Scheduled Contract Conferences with Mentor
6:00–9:00 p.m.	Banquet and MFA Student Reading (Stables – Curris Center)

Saturday, January 14

9:00 –11:30 a.m.	Workshop with Mentor and Writing Group
11:30 a.m.	"On the Road Deli Luncheon," Required attendance. Program evaluations will be filled out and turned in by each student. (Stables)