

SYLLABUS WRITERS' WEEK WORKSHOPS: LAE 486-B

Coordinator: Joanne B. Koch (Dr. "cook") email: jkoch@nl.edu, 312-261-3103
Home Fax: 847-864-2312

To receive graduate credit of one semester hour for Summer Quarter, or undergraduate credit of two quarter hours, students must

- . attend 4 of the 6 workshops;
- . arrive at the workshop with a brief idea for or sample of writing in the category under discussion, up to one page in length;
- . revise and email after the sessions your submissions for 4 of the 6 workshops to Dr. Koch by July 7;
- . submit one 3-page revision of one of your submissions by July 15 to Dr. Koch.

SCHEDULE OF WORKSHOPS:

Monday, June 23, 6:30-9:30 p.m. Workshop on Writers Wearing Two Hats: Nonfiction and Fiction with Dawn Turner Trice, columnist, *Chicago Tribune*, author of *Only Twice I've Wished For Heaven* and *An Eighth of August*.

Tuesday, June 24 6:30-9:30 Workshop on Popular Nonfiction
Robert Kurson, author, *Crashing Through* and *Shadow Divers*

Wednesday, June 25 6:30-9:30 Workshop on Covering Politics and the Blogosphere
Rick Perlstein, author, *Nixonland* and blog writer of *The Big Con* for the Campaign for America's Future.

Thursday, June 26 6:30-9:30 Workshop on Literary Agents and Fiction Writing
Timothy Seldes, president, Russell & Volkening New York Literary Agency
& Susan Richards Shreve, author, *A Student of Living Things* and 12 other adult novels and 30 children's books, including *The Lovely Shoes*.

Saturday, June 28, 9:30-12:30 Workshop on Writing Musicals and Plays with Music
John Sparks, author and lyricist, *Hans Brinker*, *Babes in Barns*, *Einstein*,
artistic director Stages Festival of New Musicals at Theatre Building Chicago.

Lunch: 12:30-1:30—with authors and participants

Saturday, June 28, 1:30-4:30 Comedy Writing for Stage & Screen
Tim Kazurinsky, comedy writer and performer for *Saturday Night Live*,
Screenwriter, *About Last Night*

Each workshop leader will spend an opening portion on his/her own work and the writing process involved. Students should come to each workshop with a brief piece of writing—not more than a page—in the specific area. Please bring 30 copies of this one page to each of the workshops in which you are participating.

*(For the June 28th Comedy Workshop, please email your ideas in advance, by June 24, to jkoch@nl.edu with the title line FOR COMEDY WORKSHOP.)

For the Monday evening, June 23 Workshop with Dawn Turner Trice it could be a human interest article or page from a projected novel.

For the Tuesday evening, June 24 Workshop with Robert Kurson, bring a page from a projected nonfiction article or book focusing on one individual.

For the Wednesday evening, June 25 Workshop with Rick Perlstein, bring a page from a blog you propose or a page from a profile of a figure in public life, living or dead.

For the Thursday evening, June 26 Workshop with literary agent Timothy Seldes and author Susan Richards Shreve, bring a cover letter to an agent for a manuscript you wish him/her to represent or a page from a work of children's or adult fiction.

For the Saturday morning, June 28 Workshop with writer-lyricist-teacher John Sparks, bring a page on an idea for a musical, dialogue leading to a song, or lyrics to a song.

*For the Saturday afternoon, June 28 Workshop with comedy writer Tim Kazurinsky, email your idea in advance and bring copies of an idea for a comedy skit of the type one would see on *Saturday Night Live*, or the premise for a sit-com episode or comedy screenplay.

The submitted work will be distributed to attendees and the leader will comment on the submissions, suggesting areas for revision. Students will participate in this feedback.

FORMAT

Students taking the Workshops for credit will revise one-page submissions for 4 of the workshops and email them to Dr. Koch, jkoch@nl.edu, by July 7. They will select one submission and revise and expand it to 3 pages and submit via email to Dr. Koch by July 15. All student work should be typewritten, double-spaced, with the student's name, email and phone number and the title of the workshop for which the work is intended on the top and on the title line of the email

NLU & Plagiarism

Plagiarism “is commonly defined as using the words or ideas of another person without proper acknowledgement.” Plagiarism “can apply to improper use of anyone’s materials, whether or not that material has been previously published or copyrighted.” Plagiarism, p.52) NLU 2006-7 Catalog <http://www3.nl.edu/registrar/catalogs.cfm>

You can find the NLU Policy on Academic Honesty and related policies on pages 52-58 of the NLU Catalog. “It is expected that all material submitted as part of any class exercise, in or out of class, is the actual work of the student whose name appears on the material or is properly documented otherwise” (page 52).

Plagiarism is:

- . Using papers written by another person and handing them in as your own
- . Using someone else’s ideas and words without giving them due credit
- . Cheating
- . An act of academic dishonesty
- . Deliberated use of direct quotes from online, printed material or another person’s paper, without attribution
- . Paraphrasing or summarizing someone’s ideas or words without attribution

REGISTRATION:

The graduate credit for the Writers’ Week Workshops will be at the continuing education rate of \$289.00 per hour. Register via the internet by going to <http://nl.edu@writersweek> or call 312-261-3010. Registration for credit must be completed by June 20. For additional information, please email Joanne Koch, Director of the Master of Science in Written Communication Program at jkoch@nl.edu.

National-Louis University's Third Annual Writers' Week Workshops: June 23-28, 2008

About our Workshop Leaders

DAWN TURNER TRICE has written a column for the *Chicago Tribune* for the past six years, joining that paper twenty years ago. Recently she has launched a dialogue on race via a website which has attracted great attention.

She also writes novels, including *Only Twice I've Wished for Heaven* which explores divisions between the Black elite and those living in the ghetto, through the eyes of an inquiring eleven year old. Her next novel, *An Eighth of August*, deals with the strong ties and haunting memories that bind family and friends in a community that celebrates the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation year after year. Author and prolific columnist, Dawn nevertheless admits: "Though I love writing, it still scares the hell out of me. Nothing makes my stomach seize like the blank page. Still, I can't imagine doing anything else, in any other city."

ROBERT KURSON is the author of *Shadow Divers* and *Crashing Through: A True story of Risk, Adventure, and the Man Who Dared to See*. "Robert Kurson's *Shadow Divers*, about the divers exploring sunken shipwreck off the new Jersey coast, is a gripping account of real-life adventurers and a real-life mystery," said Scott Turow, and *Publisher's Weekly* predicted a best-seller with this "superlative journalistic narrative." The predictions came true. Kurson's *Shadow Divers* became a critically acclaimed bestseller revealing new depths of World War II history, as well as friendship and compulsion. Kurson's next book--*Crashing Through*--is another thrilling adventure, the stunning true story of one man's heroic odyssey from blindness into sight. Robert Kurson is also a contributing editor at *Esquire*.

RICK PERLSTEIN is the author of *Nixonland: The Rise of a President and the Fracturing of America*, just published by Scribner and already on the *New York Times* Bestseller List. His first book, *Before The Storm: Barry Goldwater and the Unmaking of the American Consensus*, won the 2001 Los Angeles Times Book Award for history. His articles have appeared in the country's most important publications including *The New York Times*, *The New York Observer*, *The Washington Post*, *Chicago Tribune*, *San Francisco Chronicle*, *Los Angeles Times*, *Arizona Republic*, *the Nation*, *the London Review of Books*, *Newsday*, *Columbia Journalism Review* and *The New Yorker*. Perlstein is now senior fellow at the Campaign for America's Future, for whom he writes the blog *The Big Con*.

TIMOTHY SELDES has been President of Russell & Volkening, Inc. since 1972, serving as the literary agent representing noted authors including Annie Dillard, Marian Wright Edelman, Nadine Gordimer, Jim Lehrer, George Plumptre, Howell Raines, Dan Schorr, Ntozake Shange, Anne Tyler and Eudora Welty. He has spent most of his professional life in book publishing, beginning with 17 years at Doubleday where he was the Managing Editor of the Trade Department. He was Chairman of the Board of Poets and Writers for many years. He is married to the author Susan R. Shreve and divides his time between Washington, D. C. and New York City.

SUSAN R. SHREVE is the author of thirteen novels, the latest of which is *A Student of Living Things* published by Viking/Penguin. A memoir published this year by Houghton Mifflin Inc. *Warm Springs: Traces of a Childhood*, was just reprinted by Mariner books. The most recent of her thirty books for children is *The Lovely Shoes*, to be published next year by Arthur A. Levine Books/ Scholastic Press. She is Professor of English at George Mason University, has been a visiting professor at Princeton, Columbia and George Washington University and is a founder of the PEN/Faulkner Foundation, a national literary foundation which includes among other outreaches a writers in schools program in Washington, D.C., Chicago, Detroit, Kansas City and Atlanta.

JOHN SPARKS serves as both artistic director of the Stages Festival of New Musicals and the director of the Musical Writers' Workshop at Theatre Building Chicago. Shuttling between Chicago and L.A., he is also Artistic Director of the Academy of New Music in Los Angeles. He is a member of the board and guest instructor with Mercury Musicals Development in London. He wrote the words and music for the popular musical *Babes in Arms*, wrote the lyrics for the holiday favorite *Hans Brinker*, collaborated on *Cashel Byron*, wrote the book for *The Arresting Dilemma of Mister K.* and collaborated on the book for the new musical about Einstein, *The Smartest Man in the World*.

TIM KAZURINSKY got his show biz start at Chicago's own Second City Theatre. Movie appearances include *Neighbors*, *Somewhere in Time* and three *Police Academy* films. A former cast member of NBC's "Saturday Night Live," Tim returned home to Chicago to co-write such screenplays as *My Bodyguard*, *About Last Night*, *the Cherokee Kid* and *For Keeps*. He was nominated for a Writers' Guild Award for his screenplay for *Strange Relations*, starring Paul Reiser, Julie Walters and Olympia Dukakis. But Tim still loves performing and has recently done guest star roles on *Curb Your Enthusiasm*, *Still Standing* and *According to Jim*. and appearances in the Bow Wow film, *Roll Bounce* and Jeff Garlin's film, *I Want Someone to Eat Cheese With*.