

Instructor: Kanza Javed

Course time: M/W/F 6:30-8:30pm

### **Introduction to Fiction Writing (offered on-campus)**

**Course Criteria:** To take this course, the participant's age should be 15 years old and above

#### **Introduction:**

This course will dive into the craft and the art involved in writing fiction. The course will focus on learning the principles of good storytelling (setting, characterization, plot, opening and hooks, dialogue etc), analyzing various literary texts, craft talks and revising personal writing drafts.

#### **Course layout and goals:**

This fiction course will be divided into craft and workshop time. For the workshop hours, the students will be expected to work on their short stories (own work) and learn how to critique and receive feedback (constructive criticism) from their peers.

For craft classes, the students will be expected to read short stories or novel excerpts assigned to them via email so they can contribute in discussions. There will be several in-class writing prompts to understand each other's voice and thematic concerns.

Students will be reading and discussing short stories by Jhumpa Lahiri, Wells Tower, Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie and other writers. The class will also be examining craft talks by various writers to dive deeper into the creative process, the writing and the subsequent drafting and revisions.

\*Participation in class must be based on mutual respect for differences in tastes, interests and skill-set. An atmosphere of understanding and empathy where every writer feels valued will be created. \*

#### **About the instructor:**

Kanza Javed is the author of the national bestseller, "Ashes, Wine and Dust." Her work has been featured in American Literary review, The Punch Magazine and Salamander. Her short story "Rani" won the Reynolds Price Prize for Fiction 2020, and was shortlisted at the Salamander Short Fiction Award.