This is a creative writing course in which students will be encouraged to find their own writing voices by writing around the issue of gender, telling the stories of how they became who they are, and the impact of gender in this process. We will work within two genres: poetry, perhaps the oldest and most venerated of the literary arts, and creative non-fiction, the feisty new kid on the literary block. We’ll play with both of them.

The course will be divided into two sections of six weeks working in each genre. Classes will consist of in-class writing exercises, workshop (critiquing) your own and each other’s work, and discussion of other author’s work and of issues relevant to creative writers, such as publishing. The focus will be not on content but on technique, on learning to write more clearly, our own truths.

**Course Requirements:**
- Do required readings and participate regularly in class.
- Read your own and respond to other’s work in workshop.
- Complete one creative non-fiction piece (Mid-term).
- Produce a final chapbook of 25 pages of prose or 15 of poetry.

**Required Readings:**
A reading package will be available in the bookstore.

**Recommended Readings:**

*Writing Down the Bones: Freeing the Writer Within*, by Natalie Goldberg (Boston: Shambhala, 1986)

*Language In Her Eye: Views on Writing and Gender by Canadian Women Writing in English*, Edited by Libby Scheier, Sarah Sheard & Eleanor Wachtel (Toronto: Coach House Press, 1990)


**Final Evaluation:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Weight</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Attendance</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Participation in workshops</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<tr>
<td>One creative non-fiction piece of writing (Mid-term)</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final chapbook (Prose or poetry)</td>
<td>40%</td>
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