



Saigon Writers Club

Creative Writing Class II

Dry Season 2022

The **Saigon Writers Club** is a private and in-person creative writing class for people who have always wanted to write and publish fiction. The founder and instructor is Sam Korsmoe, an American writer who has published two books, is nearing completion of a third book, and was a journalist for several years. He has taught creative writing to adults and youth and has accumulated 10,000 hours of writing practice. The Club's inaugural creative writing class has been completed and the **Rainy Season 2021 Short Story Anthology** has been published. The second creative writing class will begin in January 2022 with the goal of publishing the **Dry Season 2022 Short Story Anthology** of the Saigon Writers Club.

Class Schedule: There are 10 class sessions starting with a three-hour workshop followed by eight 90-minute classes. This new class will begin on January 8/9 and go until March 3, 2022.

When: The opening class will be a three-hour workshop on the weekend of January 8th and 9th (the starting date and time will be set based on the work schedules of the majority of the students who sign up). Then, the remaining eight classes will be held from 7:00 to 8:30 PM every Thursday evening up until the final class on March 3.

Where: The classes will be in person with the location TBA (i.e. NOT online unless COVID rears its ugly head again). Full vaccination is required to attend in person classes.

Course Deliverables: There will be 15 hours of in-person instruction plus 60 minutes of one-to-one consultations with the instructor (two 30-minute sessions). All course materials will be provided as part of the tuition fee.

Course Objective: Each student will complete and publish their own short story.

Class Capacity: 10 to 12 students on a first come first serve basis

Tuition: VND 5,000,000 inclusive of all course materials, teaching, and final deliverables

Final Deliverable: **Saigon Writers Club – Short Story Anthology II – Dry Season 2022**
Each student will receive a free copy of this anthology with their short story published within.

Draft Course Syllabus

The classes will be separated into three sections. These are a lecture session on a specific topic of fiction writing followed by an activities session that is completed individually and/or in pairs and groups and then a final session for discussions in pairs and/or as a full class. The ‘I Love Words’ and ‘Short Story Discussion’ will be held each week though they might be abbreviated. The draft outline, subject to change, is detailed below for each class.

Date	Lecture Topic (30 minutes)	Class Activity (30 minutes)	Class Discussion (30 minutes)
January 8/9 Three-hour workshop	I – Short story structure; Coming up with story ideas II – Character development; Building round characters	I – Design story arc; Brainstorm story ideas II – Create round characters; List attributes	I – Talk about family, adventures, & story ideas II – Introduce character; Present and interview
January 13 90 minutes	Plot models; Steps of the short story arc; Writer types;	Story outlines; Testing models; Define conflict; I Love Words Exercise	Sharing your plot plan; Introduce characters; Short Story Discussion
January 20 90 minutes	Methods for character portrayal & development; Building round characters;	Create character outlines; Q&A plot treatment; One- inch windows practice; I Love Words Exercise	Share plot treatment; Share I Love Words exercise; Short Story Discussion
January 27 90 minutes	Setting, time, mood, & place of a story; Combining character, plot, & setting	Describing environments & moods; Build settings; I Love Words Exercise	Introduce setting; Talk through a shitty first draft; Short Story Discussion
February 3 90 minutes	Point of view options (1 st & 3 rd); Author, Character, & Narrator in a short story	Describe events in 1 st & 3 rd point of view; I Love Words Exercise	Explain your POV; Describe the narrator; Short Story Discussion
February 10 90 minutes	Voice, Sentence Structure, & Word Choice; Writing Style; Paragraphing; Words	Building a voice; How to show not tell; Test voices; I Love Words Exercise	Talk about your style; What do you <i>sound</i> like? Short Story Discussion
February 17 90 minutes	Dialogue and Scenes; How dialogue shapes plots; Advancing plot with scenes	Create a dialogue & build a scene from a prompt; I Love Words Exercise	Talk about minor & major scenes of your story; Short Story Discussion
February 24 90 minutes	Beginnings & Endings; Lead & Close methods; Character epiphanies	Write opening paragraph; Edit close of your story; I Love Words Exercise	Discuss & defend your stories lead and close; Short Story Discussion
March 3 90 minutes	Final edits; Finishing the story; Publishing; Using images in the story	Line edits; ‘Killing your babies’; Finishing a scene I Love Words Exercise	Talk about the feelings your story should evoke; Short Story Discussion

Assigned Short Story Reading

Each week the students will be assigned and be expected to read a short story written by one of the masters. Each short story will be relevant to that week's lecture topic and class activity. The class will discuss this story the following week during the class discussion session. Some of the stories to be assigned will include the following though others might be added:

The Short Happy Life of Francis McCumber by Ernest Hemingway

The Ransom of Red Chief by O'Henry

To Build A Fire by Jack London

The Tell Tale Heart by Edgar Allen Poe

Broke Back Mountain by Annie Proulx

Good Scent from a Strange Mountain by Robert Olen Butler

The Killers by Ernest Hemingway

Fetching Raymond by John Grisham

How to sign up?

The signup process for this second creative class is very simple. Send an email to Sam Korsmoe at sam@yespi.net with the following information included:

Name:

Email Address:

Telephone Number:

Native Language:

Written language for your short story:

A VND 1,000,000 deposit is required to reserve a seat in the class with the remaining amount of VND 4,000,000 due prior to the first class.

If you have any questions, please call Sam directly at 0904347591. More information can be found at www.yespi.net

Thank You!!