NYU in Dublin 2017

Creative Writing, Claire Kilroy

This is a workshop-based creative writing course. This means students will be bringing in their own work for discussion. Each student will be asked to submit five pieces over the course of the six weeks spent in Dublin. No previous writing experience is required.

After the introductory session, during which we will establish what everyone is working on or wishes to start working on, students should be prepared to submit work in advance of each class to enable fellow participants to have read and thought about each other’s manuscripts. You will need to print a copy of your manuscript for each of your classmates. Feedback on students' work will constitute the major component of this course.

During class, a discussion of each submission will take place. I will individually critique every piece before opening up the discussion to the rest of the group. Everybody's manuscript will be returned to them marked up with my notes. Part of writing well is to learn to read critically, and for this reason all participants will be expected to comment on and mark up their colleague’s manuscripts too. As creative writing is subjective, you will be graded primarily on your participation.

For those working on prose, aim for pieces of between 500 and 1000 words long. For poetry, there is no word count, but please bring in enough material to sustain a 30 minute discussion. Participants are welcome to submit new work, or to develop and edit work as the semester progresses.

We will be reading Solar Bones by Mike McCormack with a view to examining and discussing narrative techniques that appeal to us. Solar Bones won the Goldsmiths Prize and the Irish Novel of the Year in 2016.