**1. Name and contact information**

Frank Chadwick

[Fchad124c@aol.com](mailto:Fchad124c@aol.com)

1067 St. Andrews Cir.

Rantoul, IL 61866

(610) 401-3693

**2. Course Length**

Eight weeks

**3. Course Title**

The Art and Craft of Writing as Portrayed in Film

**4. Brief Course Description**

The course examines key aspects of the art and craft of writing as viewed through the lens of cinema. Eight films look at four themes: the difference between teaching writing and practicing the craft itself, the blurry line between story and reality, the tough mechanics of producing a final manuscript, and the coming of age of authors as they find their own unique, authentic voice.

**5. Course Outline**

*Part One: Teaching and Writing.*

**Week One: Wonder Boys** (2000, screenplay by Steve Kloves) A creative writing teacher helps others begin their careers, but struggles to complete his own novel.

**Week Two: The Wife** (2017, screenplay by Jane Anderson) A former creative writing teacher wins the Nobel Prize for Literature, but did he do it all by himself?

*Part Two: Story and Reality*

**Week Three: Misery** (1990, screenplay by William Goldman) An author is rescued from a car wreck by one of his biggest fans, and discovers how blurry the line between story and reality can become in the mind of the reader.

**Week Four: Adaptation** (2002, screenplay by Charlie Kaufman and Donald Kaufman) A writer (harlie Kaufman)is hired to produce a screen adaptation of a best-selling non-fiction book, and discovers how blurry the line between story and reality can become in the mind of the author.

*Part Three: Forging (as with steel, not handwriting) the Manuscript*

**Week Five: Genius** (2016, screenplay by John Logan) The story of author Thomas Wolfe and editor Maxwell Perkins dramatizes the importance of more than a single mind in creating enduring art, as well as the necessity for relentless, merciless revision.

**Week Six: Barton Fink** (1991, screenplay by Ethan Coen and Joel Coen) A Hollywood screenwriter encounters writer's block . . . and then his troubles really begin.

*Part Four: Authors Coming of Age*

**Week Seven: Little Women** (2019, screenplay by Greta Gerwig) The fictionalized autobiographical story of the young writer Louisa May Alcott.

**Week Six: Finding Forrester** (2000, screenplay by Mike Rich) A troubled but talented high school student in New York befriends a reclusive author and discovers the transformative power of the written word.

**6. Abbreviated research bibliography**

None

**7. Abbreviated Reading List for students**

Hills, Rust. **Writing In General and the Short Story in Particular,** (Boston, 1987), Houghton Mifflin Company.

Kaplan, David Michael. **Revision: A Creative Guide to Writing and Rewriting Fiction,** (Cincinnati, 1997), Story Press.

Maass, Donald. **The Fire in Fiction,** (Cincinnati, 2009), Writers Digest Books.

**8. 100-word biographical statement of instructor.**

Frank Chadwick is a working author with eight published novels and three short stories, as well as numerous non-fiction books, and columns. He has taught the Writing the Novel course twice for OLLI and has facilitated the OLLI Writers' Café for over ten years.

**9. Current CV or resume, including education and job history with employers, dates, degrees earned**

Attached

**10. Will this course fulfill a requirement for outreach/broader impacts by your professional position or a grant? If yes, please indicate the position or grant for which this course will serve as an outreach project.**

No

Frank A. Chadwick

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*EDUCATION*

* Master of Science, Communication, Illinois State University, Normal, IL, August 10, 1973
* Bachelor of Arts, Speech, Augustana College, Rock Island, IL, July 23, 1971

*PUBLISHED WORKS*

* Author of eight novels (three from Untreed Reads and five from Baen Books) and three short stories.
* Author of 14 non-fiction books and 19 nonfiction articles. **Desert Shield Fact Book** (1991) reached number one on the *New York Times* best seller list.
* Featured writer for the Weider History Group's GreatHistory.com 2006-2010. Over 260 columns on foreign affairs and military history.
* Author/designer of over 100 published games and game supplements.

*EMPLOYMENT HISTORY*

* Self-Employed Writer, 01/08-present
* Featured Writer, GreatHistory.com, Weider History Group., Leesburg, VA, 01/09-01/11
* Managing Partner, Test of Battle Games, East Texas, PA, 01/06 to 01/08
* Author, The Foundry, Ltd., Nottingham, UK, 03/00-12/05
* Author and Editor, Old Glory Press, Calumet, PA 02/99-11/99
* Author, The Emperor’s Press, Chicago, IL 09/96-02/99
* President, Game Designers’ Workshop, Normal, IL 06/73 to 09/96
* Director, Learning Resource Center, Illinois State University, Normal, IL, 10/72-06/73
* Graduate Teaching Assistant, Communication, Illinois State University, Normal, IL, 9/71-06/72