Please keep in mind this is your class, your opportunity to share ideas, flex your imagination and thoughtfully absorb the insights of your peers in a structured space. The success of this course depends on each person’s commitment to the material and willingness to actively contribute to discussions. I would like to emphasize also the importance of frequent dialog among our group and with the texts we encounter. To get the most out of this class, it is imperative that you all talk to each other. In other words, this is a collaborative environment—when you say something, say it to the group, or to a classmate, not just to me.

In general, I want us to ensure a positive atmosphere that fosters an open exchange of ideas. Never be afraid to ask a “dumb” question—there is no such thing to my mind. Questions of any kind are encouraged—we are here to learn, not prove what we already know.

**Required Texts:**

There are no required texts for this course. The majority of our reading will be student manuscript drafts. Some additional reading (PDF files and web links) will be provided.

**Grading**

Forum Participation: 50%  
(Forum Participation includes workshop comments)

Writing Exercise and manuscript submission: 50%

**Course Schedule:**

WEEK ONE * October 22

{Diagnostics; Kill your Darlings!; How to Become Your Own Best Editor...}

*Reading:* Karen Outen: “How I learned to Love Revision”  
http://www.glimmertrain.com/fmoct08.html;  Miller & Paola: “The Writing
Process and Revision”; Carol Bly: “Literary Fixes”

Assignments: Choose at least 2 revision exercises to complete

WEEK TWO * October 29

{Reading as Writers; Beginning Strong; Workshop; Digesting Comments}

Reading: Miller & Paola: ”The Writing Group”; Anne Lamott “Someone To Read Your Drafts”; Maria Hummell: “Blood & Treasure”

Assignments: Two Beginnings; Peer Comments

WEEK THREE * November 5

{Workshop; Feedback for the Future; Keeping it Fresh}

Reading: Anne Lamott: “How do You Know When You’re Done?”

Assignments: Peer Comments