In Jackson

Spring Semester 2003

Surprise, surprise: The Teacher is a Writer

This course in writing fiction will meet Monday afternoons, 5 p.m. in Jackson beginning Monday, Jan. 6, 2003. The 3 hours of graduate credit could count toward recertification, hours toward the M.S. in Education from UTM, or toward "30 hours above." The teacher is Margrethe Ahlschwede, Director of the West Tennessee Writing Project in the Department of English at UT Martin.

This class, listed as English 696, Section LU1, Seminar in Language and Literature--fiction writing for more than beginners--is designed for teachers who want to recapture their love of fiction writing and want to be better writing teachers. If you have participated in a summer institute of the West Tennessee Writing Project, one or more professional development programs of WTWP, or have read Anne Lamott’s Bird by Bird or Natalie Goldberg’s Writing Down the Bones and thought these authors were speaking to you, then you’ll want to be part of this class.

We will write drafts, meet in writing response groups, work together on strategies for producing stronger fiction, and describe how our teaching changes because we teachers are writers. Reading options include The Tennessee Waltz and Other Stories by Alan Cheuse, the Pulitzer Prize winning Interpreter of Maladies by Jhumpa Lahiri, A Celestial Omnibus: Short Fiction on Faith, edited by J.P. Maney and Tom Hazuka, Rules of the Road by Joan Bauer, and On Moral Fiction by John Gardner.

For information about graduate admission contact the Office of Graduate Studies, (731) 587-7012. For more about the M.S. in Education, contact College of Education and Behavioral Studies, 237 Gooch Hall, UTM, 38238, (731) 587-7130.

To register for English 696, Section LU1, call the Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education, 1 (800) 491-6445. For further information about the class, contact Margrethe Ahlschwede, Department of English, (731) 587-7290, or e-mail margahls@utm.edu. This class is designed for teachers but open to writers who also meet admission requirements for graduate study at UT Martin. Register early to insure a space.