Course Title: The 10 Things Every New Writer Should Know

Instructor: Brian Smith

Instructor Credentials: Brian W. Smith is an award winning, Amazon and Dallas Morning News and Best Selling Author of fifteen novels. He is currently signed to Simon and Schuster. He has two Bachelor of Science Degrees (Business Administration and Criminal Justice) and a Master Degree in Business Administration (MBA).


Course Description: Hundreds of debut novelists enter the literary industry and quickly get discouraged because of the “business” side of writing. This class is designed to deal with the most common mistakes first time authors make and teach you WHAT NOT to do.

Suggested Course Prerequisite(s): None

Materials Needed: None

Course Objectives:
1. Learn what to expect from editors
2. Learn what to expect from Graphic Designers
3. Learn what NOT to send to a Literary Agent
4. Learn which "sacred cows" should be avoided
5. Learn where to find avid readers and book clubs
6. Learn what type of publisher you should NOT sign with
7. Learn what questions NOT to ask veteran authors
8. Learn how to manage your expectations
9. Learn what NOT to do at literary events
10. Learn what NOT to say to critics

Textbook(s): None

Course Sessions: listed are a guideline to indicate all topics that will be covered during your course. Do not plan your personal calendar based on these sessions. Your instructor will give you a calendar for your class that will indicate specific topics, assignments, and days.

Method of Evaluation: Unless otherwise stated, course completion is evaluated on the basis of attendance. Students must be in attendance 90% of the class time in order to be considered a successful completer of the course.

Students must be in attendance 90% of each course in a certificate series for successful completion and to earn a certificate as specified.

Students must complete all courses (core and no. of elective courses needed) to complete a certificate series within two years from start date of the first course taken.
Americans with Disabilities Act: Collin College will adhere to all applicable federal, state and local laws, regulations and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations as required to afford equal opportunity. It is the student’s responsibility to contact the ACCESS office, SCC-G200 or 972.881.5898 (V/TTD: 972.881.5950) to arrange for appropriate accommodations. See the current Collin Student Handbook for additional information.

http://www.collin.edu/studentresources/personal/studenthandbook.aspx