

Creative Writing by Dr. Franz Andres Morrissey

Kursdatum: Dienstag, 18. Dezember 2018
Kursdauer: 13:30 – 17:00 Uhr
Kursort: bsd. Bern, Postgasse 66, 3011 Bern (Zimmer gem. Screen)

Dieser Workshop eignet sich besonders für Fremdsprachenlehrerinnen und -lehrer, also nicht nur für das Fach Englisch, sondern auch für Französisch. Der Kurs wird für Lernende der Stufen A1 und A2 angepasst und mit praktischen Beispielen belegt. And, it will be fun!

Writing is an underused way of using and practicing language. It is mainly used for completing exercises and only occasionally to write a relatively unguided text, for instance a letter or perhaps a short account of an experience, neither of which rely very much on intuition and linguistic creativity. But writing can be an important way of practicing language that gives all learners, perhaps, especially those less likely to speak up in the classroom, an opportunity to use language and to do so without potentially being left behind by a fast-moving conversation.

Creative Writing in the language classroom is an effective tool to make more use of writing as a way to use language rather more freely than in conventional written exercises, but also to appeal to a sense of playfulness that gives learners the freedom to explore their own ideas and to bring their personal thoughts into their work – and most of us are quite fond of expressing ourselves in preference to what a textbook makes us say or write.

One of the issues with many teachers is that they associate creative writing with a lack of control or discipline, a linguistic free-for-all. However, good creative writing is possible more precise and demanding in terms of vocabulary choice and grammatical accuracy than most newcomers to creative writing would think. Another frequent question is what the point is of letting students write creatively if the outcome is often clichéd and predictable.

This course explores some creative writing techniques that address the need for personal expression in the target language, but also avoid the pitfalls of “unfettered” and out-of-control language use as well as clichéd writing. We will try out some exercises and activities that are proven to have worked in the main part of this session, followed by a discussion about how these activities could be adapted to a teacher’s teaching style and classroom conditions.

(For a presentation on uses for creative writing as a means to explore unconventional thinking see <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nBgz6Kbl9yA>)

Anmeldung bis 2. Dezember 2018 an weiterbildung@bsd-bern.ch