

Creative Writing Class

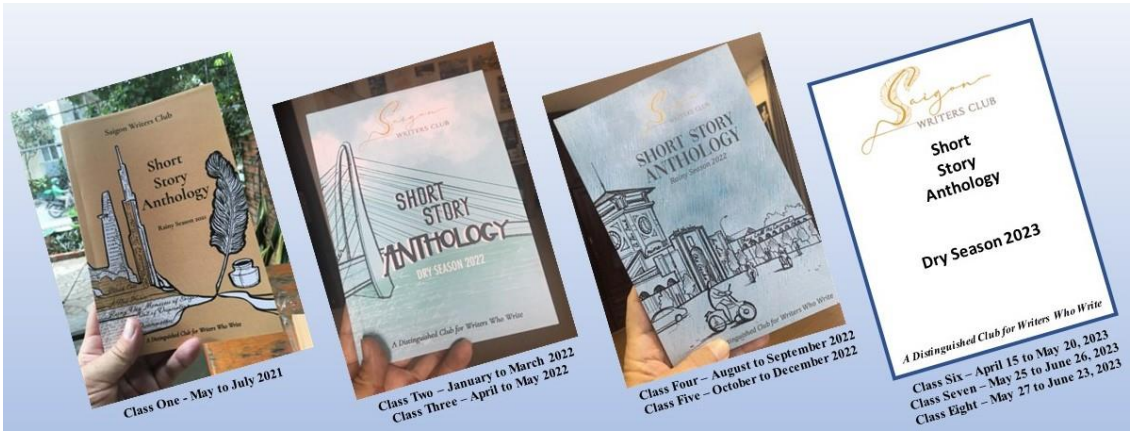
Course Agenda and Details for the
Saigon Writers Club Partnership Program

Beginning in August 2023

This is a class for aspiring writers, students, and lovers of literature to study the craft of creative writing, research and write their own fictional short story, and become published authors.

The **Saigon Writers Club** hosts creative writing classes for people who have always wanted to write and publish fiction. The founder and instructor is Sam Korsmoe, an American writer who has written and published two books, will have his third book on the future of Vietnam published in September 2023, and was a journalist for several years. He has taught creative writing to adults and youth and has accumulated 10,000 hours of writing practice.

The Club has completed eight creative writing classes and published three short story anthologies. The fourth anthology is scheduled for publication in August. There will be creative writing classes scheduled on a regular basis in order to produce two short story anthologies every year – one for the dry season and one for the rainy season – for as long as there are rainy and dry seasons in Vietnam.



Saigon Writers Club Partnership Program: Beginning in August 2023, the **Saigon Writers Club** will build partnerships with universities, international high schools, English training centers, education consultants, and other organizations who are active in the education space. These are organizations who have a student network from which there are likely students who are interested in and can benefit from the study of creative writing. In addition, they will benefit from having a work of creative writing published. Effectively, this is an out-sourcing opportunity for these organizations to offer their students a creative writing option for their education journey.

Course Deliverables: The course lectures, activities, and discussions will be in the English language. There will be 15 hours of in-person instruction for the entire class plus two private one-to-one consultations with the instructor (30 to 45 minutes for each session). The first private session will be arranged when the student has written around 3,000 words of his/her short story. The second private session will be arranged when the student has written at least 5,000 words and has a good sense of how to end the story. The private sessions are intended to help the student finish their short story so it can be ready for publication in the anthology by the deadline.

Location: The location and time frame of the classes will be arranged by the partnering organization.

Course Objective: Each student will complete and prepare for publication their own short story.

Tuition: The cost of the class for the **Saigon Writers Club** partner is VND 5,000,000 per student. This is inclusive of all course materials, teaching, consulting, publishing, editing, and final deliverables. The partner shall set its own tuition rate for its student network and do its own marketing to their students.

Course Syllabus

The classes will be separated into three sections. These are a lecture session on a specific topic of fiction writing followed by an activities session that is completed individually and/or in pairs and groups and then a final session for discussions in pairs and/or as a full class. The 'I Love Words' and 'Short Story Discussion' components will be held each class though they might be abbreviated. The curriculum is detailed below for each class.

Class	Lecture Topic (30 minutes)	Class Activity (30 minutes)	Class Discussion (30 minutes)
One	I – Short story structure; Coming up with story ideas	I – Brainstorm story ideas; Design story arc;	I – Talk about family, adventures, & story ideas
Two	II – Character development; Building round characters	II – Create round characters; List attributes of character	II – Introduce character; Present and interview
Three	III – Methods for character portrayal & development; Building round characters	III – Create character outlines; Q&A plot treatment One-inch windows; I Love Words Exercise	III – Share plot treatment; Share I Love Words exercise; Short Story Discussion
Four	IV – Plot models; Steps of the short story arc; Writer types	IV – Story outlines; Testing models; Define conflict;	IV – Sharing your plot plan; Introduce characters; Short Story Discussion
Five	V – Setting, time, mood, & place of a story; Combining character, plot, & setting	V – Describing environments & moods; Building settings; I Love Words Exercise	V – Introduce setting; Talk through a shitty first draft; Short Story Discussion
Six	VI – Point of view options (1st & 3rd); Author, Character, & Narrator of a short story	VI – Describe events in 1st & 3rd person point of view; I Love Words Exercise	VI – Explain your POV; Describe the narrator; Short Story Discussion
Seven	VII – Voice, Sentence Structure, & Word Choice; Writing Style; Paragraphing;	VII – Building a voice; How to show not tell; Testing voices; I Love Words Exercise	VII – Talk about your style; What do you *sound* like? Short Story discussion
Eight	VIII – Dialogue and Scenes; How dialogue shapes plot; Advancing plot with scenes	VIII – Create a dialogue & build a scene from a prompt; I Love Words Exercise	VIII – Talk about minor & major scenes of your story; Short Story Discussion
Nine	IX – Beginnings & Endings; Lead & Close methods; Character epiphanies	IX – Write opening paragraph; Edit close of your story; I Love Words Exercise	IX – Discuss & defend your stories lead and close; Short Story Discussion
10	X – Final edits; Finishing the story; Publishing; Using images in the story	X – Line edits; 'Killing your babies'; Finishing a scene; Discuss cover designs	X – Talk about the feelings your story should evoke; Short Story Discussion

Assigned Short Story Reading

Each week the students will be assigned and be expected to read a short story written by one of the master fiction writers. Each short story will be relevant to that week's lecture topic and class activity. As time allows, the class will discuss this story the following week during the class discussion session. Some of the stories to be assigned will include the following:

The Short Happy Life of Francis McCumber by Ernest Hemingway

The Ransom of Red Chief by O'Henry

To Build A Fire by Jack London

The Tell Tale Heart by Edgar Allen Poe

Broke Back Mountain by Annie Proulx

Good Scent from a Strange Mountain by Robert Olen Butler

The Killers by Ernest Hemingway

Fetching Raymond by John Grisham

Sam Korsmoe, the founder and teacher of the **Saigon Writers Club**, is ready to discuss all issues and logistics with interested partnering organizations. This includes the physical location of the classes (online or offline), the time of day for the classes, the time frames for the entire course, and other issues. The tuition for the class that will be charged to the partnership organization is VND 5,000,000 per student. The organization is free to charge any amount it deems suitable and which allows for a profit margin for their organization.

Interested students are encouraged to view the club's website at www.saigonwritersclub.com If the partnering organization requires more materials for marketing this class to their network (i.e. logos, excerpts from published short stories, tutorials, etc…), these will be provided as available. The promotion and marketing of the creative writing classes is entirely the responsibility of the partnering organization.

If you have any questions, please call Sam directly at 0904 347 591.

Thank You!!

Sam Korsmoe

Founder/Teacher of the **Saigon Writers Club**

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