Introduction to Self-Publishing
Saturdays from 10:00am to 12:00pm

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Course Description
With the increase of individual writing and the decline of traditional publishing, self-publishing is an increasingly popular way for new authors to share their creative output with the world. You can self-publish novels, non-fiction, graphic novels, periodicals, magazines, journals, family histories, or any other purpose currently assigned to traditional publishing.

This is a practical guide to self-publishing, which covers both traditional publishing and e-publishing. It includes how to write for publication, the practical steps necessary to self-publish, publishing costs, and how to make the book available to public post-publication. By the end of this course, you WILL have published your text.

Course Goals
- Write with readers in mind
- Read with writers in mind
- Explore the various options for self-publishing in all media formats
- Edit texts for style, correctness, and readability
- PUBLISH YOUR TEXT!

Required Texts and Materials
These texts are all required:
- Preferably your manuscript, but at least an idea and the willingness to write
- Access to the internet

Students with Disabilities and Veterans
The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please call or visit Disability Services at (361) 825-5816 in Driftwood 101.
If you are a returning veteran and are experiencing cognitive and/or physical access issues in the classroom or on campus, please contact the Disability Services office for assistance at (361) 825-5816.

**Course Schedule**
This course is expected to take place over four (4) two-hour course periods.

**Class #1 – Overview**
In this first course, the instructor will detail the available options for self-publishing, the steps necessary, and the general costs. Options for self-publishing include e-publishing, traditional publishing, and/or both. Costs include an ISBN, bar code, listing fees, and any traditional copying/printing costs.

**Class #2 – Editing for Publication (content)**
One of the major functions of the traditional editor is to correct factual and stylistic errors. As self-publishers, you will need to perform these functions on your own. You and your classmates (with instructor assistance) will edit your actual manuscripts and give tips for the future. This course will touch on grammar, spelling, and punctuation, but it will not merely be a grammar refresher.

**Class #3 – Editing for Publication (form)**
Your manuscript is prepared and reads professionally. One final step. You need to format your text into a publishable format, including sizing, font, page numbers, cover, dedications, and other such formal requirements. You also need to prepare a hundred word synopsis of your text.

**Class #4 – PUBLISH!**
In this final class, students will e-publish their texts. Those who want to publish in a traditional format will make arrangements to have those texts traditionally published. This class will also go in depth on how to reach the largest possible audience, including locating an agent for your next opus.