

**THE ART OF WRITING**  
**IRP, Spring 2015, Syllabus**

**Coordinators:** Michelle Harris, Lorna Porter, Charles Troob

Week 1--Introductory exercise to illustrate what we would like to learn from the work of distinguished writers.

Weeks 2-9—Weekly writing assignments of 200-300 words, to be emailed to study group two days prior to class and then discussed in class. The entire study group does the same exercise in writing technique (e.g. write a dialogue, write an interior monologue, write a description of a character, write about a childhood memory). Passages from distinguished writers are shared with the study group to illustrate different approaches to the task. Study group members are free to interpret and execute the assignment in different ways.

Weeks 10-13—Complete, independent pieces (600-3000 words) are written during the term and critiqued by the study group during the last sessions. These may or may not be based on work done during weeks 2-9.