

Sara Bailey BA. MA.
Associate Lecturer
Southampton Solent University
Southampton
Hampshire, UK SO14 0YN

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For the Examinations board - Fontys University of Applied Sciences, Journalism:

I taught Anna Van Haastrecht for two Semesters at Southampton Solent University on the 'Writing the Novel' unit. The first semester involved the students working in small groups to give short presentations on the novels that we were studying. Anna showed herself to be a bright, enthusiastic member of her group and gave an interesting, informative and well researched presentation on 'Bridget Jones' by Helen Fielding. Later in the semester she volunteered to take on an extra presentation of 'The Collector' by John Fowles, which demonstrated her ability to deal with a very different subject for presentation purposes as well as her enthusiasm for the module.

With each new text that was introduced to the group, Anna's skills with English and her ability to interpret and understand the layers within story structure, narrative arc and characterisation, developed. She is a sensitive and perceptive reader, and when taking into account that the texts studied were not in her native language, this makes her abilities all the more impressive.

In the second semester we began workshops. The students had been encouraged to start working on a novel of their own and through workshops would develop their writing and critical acumen. In these sessions, Anna showed herself to be an articulate and generous student who contributed well in discussion. Her attendance was excellent; she turned up on time and was well prepared. Anna always gave clear and comprehensive responses to her colleagues and was a thoughtful participant in discussions. She demonstrated a mature and intelligent approach to reading out work in the group and was able to take criticism constructively

Her own creative work has developed over the year and shows an excellent understanding of plot, narrative structure and characterisation as well as themes and genre. It also demonstrated that she is not only capable of being imaginative and original, but that she has the ability and discipline to do thorough research and work through problems in a mature and thoughtful manner.

Anna is highly motivated, capable of independent thought, creative and original in her ideas. I believe she will go on to flourish in whatever environment she chooses to work in. I look forward to hearing about her progress in the future.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sara Bailey". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'S' and a decorative flourish at the end.

Sara Bailey