MUSE: a Magazine for UNIL Students of English

What is MUSE?

MUSE is a Magazine for UNIL Students of English. It was founded back in 2009 and was first issued as a print-only magazine. The idea is to have a space where people from the department (mainly students but staff are welcome as well) can share what they want to write about: therefore, the magazine has always accepted very different kinds of articles, going from book or movie reviews to pieces of creative writing to even short essays, be they on literature or on social issues.

The "new" MUSE

As of September 2014 we launched the new version of MUSE. Given that we are now wholly in the 21st century, we have decided that we could split the publication of MUSE into two kinds: web and print. This is why we created MUSE's own website, which will not only serve for MUSE-related news but also for whole web issues. There will still be a print issue though; the only thing that changes is that whereas we used to have two yearly issues we will now switch to one print issue per year (and an undetermined number of web issues).

MUSE 2014-15 calendar

Although these dates are suggest to be changed throughout the semester as we define more and more this "new" MUSE project, our issues should be published in this order:

- 1st **web** issue: goes online on 29th October
- 2nd **web** issue: goes online on 18th December
- **Print** issue: February 2015
- 3rd **web** issue: May 2015

Winter 2014 web issue

The first issue to be published will be a web issue.

We would like to get circa 10 articles, if possible, of all kinds of stuff. Therefore, you may want to write about anything you please, as long as it goes with our editorial line (see afterwards) and does not contain any injurious content.

Some of the ideas that we noted down for potential articles follow:

- **Assistant interview**: we would like to interview an assistant (Marie, Camille, Amy, Roxanne, etc.) from the department, since it has never been done and that they too have some interesting things to say. So far nobody has proposed to do it, so if you want to, please let us know!
- **Reviews**: it can be about anything, movies, TV shows, music, fashion, books, theatre… just let your imagination rule you! (Estel H. and Jonathan A. are writing articles about music - for the other categories, or even music, please let us know what kind of article you'd like to write)
- **Travel**: if you are planning on going abroad or have been abroad for an Erasmus exchange (for example) and you'd like to write about it, that would be great!
- **Creative writing**: we accept all kinds of creative writing, as long as it is, again, not injurious. Therefore, consider poetry, short stories, etc… (Charlotte C. sent us poems, Elvis C. might be interested and Lizy L. definitely is)
- **Essays**: whatever floats your boat. However, these do not need to be as formal as the ones you produce for your classes, even though we'd like them to make us think (about feminism, human rights, animal rights, etc.).
- **Department party articles**: if you'd like to report on how cool the first party of the semester was, feel free to do so! (and if you have photos, that would be perfect) Remember the party is on the 1st of October.
- **Quizzes**: they have to be funny (like "what kind of English literature psychopath are you?") (Corinne M. might write it)
- **University-related articles**: if you'd like to help new students and give them advice on how to write good essays or simply about university life here or anywhere else (Corinne M. thought about an article on "funny" and innovative MAs)
- **Lausanne-related articles**: if you'd like to write a kind of agenda about where the fun in Lausanne in Autumn is all at, that could be doable as well!
- **Seasonal recipes**: we know your grandma bakes the best cookies ever, so please, don't be shy and share the recipe with us! (even though that means losing the family heritage – we'll find a solution.)

Content of the articles

We would like to have short articles, i.e. that do not go over 1500-2000 words. However, and this specifically applies for creative writing pieces, if you'd like to write more, we

won't refrain you from doing so (we want you to feel free). Just avoid handing a paper that is 20-page long, please!

By the way, everything you will write for MUSE will be published **under your own name**, and there will be a disclaimer somewhere on the website to let people know that every view expressed in an article is the author's responsibility and that neither the English department or the MUSE committee can be held responsible for them.

In that same train of thought, we remind you that when you entered the UNIL you signed an electronic "charte" which defines how the University works. The whole document is available on the following webpage, with other legal texts as well: http://www.unil.ch/central/fr/home/menuinst/organisation/les-documents-officiels/charte-unil.html

Basically, remember that we are all here motivated by a scholarly ambition and that we are curious of knowing the world and the way it works. However, we do not tolerate any injurious content, and that includes base stuff such as racism, social discrimination, etc. Moreover, plagiarism is strictly prohibited. **We will therefore not publish anything that goes against these rules.** You are free to express your opinion, but in an intelligent, reasoned way, with your own words.

The deadline

As we said this issue will be published on 18th December. Therefore, we would like you to hand your articles by the **11th December** by e-mail. This will allow us to read them, correct them, ask for corrections if it is needed, and be ready to publish them twelve days later.

Your e-mail should contain:
- your text as a .docx (or .doc) document, or .odt
- an image that will be used as featured image on the website (which gives it a very professional and cool and impressive look - you'll see how in October!)

Images

About these images, it is **very important** that you use free to use images, that is images that are under the Creative Commons license (allow people to use and modify them). This is the only way we are sure that we do not get in trouble regarding copyrighted stuff.

There is a whole plage explaining the concept of Creative Commons on the Centre informatique (Ci) website:

http://www.unil.ch/ci/images-web

We strongly suggest that you use the Creative Commons search engine that is linked in the webpage we have just given you. You will find the search engine at the following address:

http://search.creativecommons.org/

You can simply type in the term you would like to search for (let's say "party") and then choose one of the images providers.

Otherwise, you may also use Fotolia, a database of free images to which the UNIL has access. It is accessible through:

http://fr.fotolia.com/

You can choose from any photo that has not a grey background (see the explication on the Ci website)

Once you have found the image, it is capital that you send us the direct link to the image info, either on Fotolia or one of the other services (Flickr, Wikimedia, etc.). This way we can get both the image and the copyright info (such as who took the photograph, etc.) and get it all right.

If you would like to use one of your own photographs that is no problem at all: just send it with the e-mail and specify that it is yours so that we can indicate this as the copyright info.

It is **very important to meet the deadlines** seeing that the University has a strict partnership with Fotolia which only allows it to get something like 5 or 10 images per day. Therefore, we do need to have all the links to all the images by the **11th December** to ensure that we have them all on 18th.

Have fun

Although there are, indeed, some rules to this new MUSE (mainly given to the fact that we are going online and that the Internet should be a space of freedom but it is actually not), we would really like you to **have fun** writing for us! So just write, give us free images, and everything would be perfect :)

Thank your for reading us! We look forward to reading your fantastical stuff.

Best,

The MUSE Committee