Writers in Paris: Fiction (Workshop)
Instructor: Nathan Englander

Rules of Engagement: We will learn how to critique each other’s work constructively—how to challenge, push, drive each other on in a wholly supportive and sensitive manner. We will all arrive to class on time, every time. We will never, ever miss a class. Ever.

Methodology: If you want to write successfully, you need to be able to step back and read your own writing critically. And the best way to master that skill is by learning to read for others. So, all the lively, thoughtful, wildly creative, and supremely-incisive discussions you’re going to take part in are really going to serve you individually as writers just as greatly as they will serve the student being critiqued.

As for Paris: It is a matter of great good fortune to be able to have adventures like the one we are going to share in Paris this summer. I imagine that much of the writing I see will be Paris based, Paris focused, Paris inspired. The title of the class does not deceive—Writers in Paris, you will be. But, as someone who spent a number of years living and writing abroad, I am as interested in seeing how you imagine home from Paris, as how you imagine Paris itself. That is, I would also like to pay special attention to the idea of distance and to explore how it may be used to enrich your work.

Structure:
All classes meet 3:00pm-5:30pm.
Day 1: Discussion and in-class exercises.
Day 2: Paris assignment due, in-class exercises, and plot meetings.
Day 4: Altered State assignment due, workshop ‘New York.’
Day 5: First Four due, workshop ‘Altered State.’
Day 6: Second Four due, workshop stories.
Day 7: Final Four due, workshop stories.
Day 8: Workshop stories.