

COURSE SYLLABUS
ENGLISH 2133/2143: CREATIVE WRITING

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Creative Writing I will develop skills in writing, reading, editing, revision, and evaluating manuscripts in fiction, poetry, nonfiction, and drama/screenwriting.

Textbook: The College Handbook of Creative Writing, third edition. Robert DeMaria

UNIT OBJECTIVES: The following units will be covered: the writing of fiction, poetry, creative nonfiction, and drama/screenwriting.

UNITS OF STUDY:

- Fiction Writing
- Poetry
- Nonfiction
- Drama/screenwriting

PLAN OF EVALUATION: Following each unit of study, the student will be evaluated by at least one major assessment tool. Assessment tools will be designed to assess the students' proficiency in the assigned unit of study; these may include tests, unit projects, collaborative assignments, homework, oral presentations, participation in class activities, workshop discussions, or completed work.

DISTRICT ENGLISH DEPARTMENT GRADING SCALE: Students in English courses will be graded according to the District English Department Grading Scale:

A	100 - 95
B	94 – 85
C	84 - 75
D	74 - 70
F	69 and below

OUTLINE OF COURSE: For presentation days, you will need to provide a copy of the work to be presented at least two class meetings prior to the class meeting at which the work will be discussed; you may email that work to me as an attachment, and I will be responsible for duplicating the work and distributing the work to everyone the meeting before the presentation. That will allow everyone time to read and make comments prior to the class discussion. If you don't have email capabilities, you can bring the work to an earlier class, or you may take responsibility for duplicating the work yourself.

As stated previously, part of your grade (25%) will be your editing/suggestions on your classmates' work. Again, I strongly urge you to make sure that your criticism is constructive and positive; at the same time, we're not here just for "strokes," so don't ignore flaws, especially if they can be corrected.

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Unit I

Fiction Writing

Unit Objective: At the end of this unit, you will have studied the elements of fiction, as well as read representative selections from the text and other sources.

Plan of Evaluation: You will be evaluated by at least one of the assessment tools listed.

Learning Objectives:

- You will identify and define the following terms: plot, character, point of view, setting, tone, voice, and theme.
- You will read and analyze selected fiction to determine how the terms mentioned in the first objective are utilized.
- You will respond to various writing prompts to indicate your ability to use the terms mentioned in the first objective in a piece of fiction.
- You may present to the class at least one fiction piece to be discussed in a workshop format.
- You will critique and respond to peers' work in a workshop format, indicating your familiarity with the terms associated with fiction.

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Unit II

Poetry

Unit Objective: At the end of this unit, you will have studied the elements of poetry, including reading representative works from the textbook and other selections.

Plan of Evaluation: You will be evaluated by at least one major assessment tool.

Learning Objectives:

- You will identify and define the terms relating to the meter, rhythm, and rhyme of poetic forms.
- You will scan selected poetic pieces to determine the meter, rhythm, and rhyme.
- You will discuss theme and form of selected poetic pieces.
- You will respond to writing prompts to indicate your ability to understand the terms indicated in the first objective.
- You may present at least one piece of poetry to the class in a workshop format.
- You will critique and respond to your peers' work in a workshop format, indicating your familiarity with the elements of poetry.

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Unit III Nonfiction

Unit Objective: At the end of this unit, you will have read and studied the elements of nonfiction prose, including personal essays, informal essays, and creative nonfiction.

Plan of Evaluation: You will be evaluated by at least one major assessment tool.

Learning Objectives:

- You will identify and define the terms related to nonfiction works, emphasizing the differences in fiction and nonfiction.
- You read and discuss representative selections of nonfiction, studying the techniques used by the various authors.
- You will respond to writing prompts to indicate your ability to understand the terms learned in the first objective.
- You may present at least one piece of nonfiction in a workshop format.
- You will respond to your peers' work in a workshop format, indicating your familiarity with the terms learned in the first objective.

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Unit IV Drama/Screenwriting

Unit Objective: At the end of this unit, you will have read and studied the elements of drama/screenwriting.

Plan of Evaluation: You will be evaluated by at least one major assessment tool.

Learning Objectives:

- You will identify and define the terms relating to drama.
- You will identify and define the terms relating to screenwriting, indicating the differences with drama.
- You will read representative works to study the techniques of the authors.
- In collaboration or alone, you will respond to writing prompts to create a one-act play.
- You will have the option of presenting a work to the class in workshop format.
- You will critique and respond to peers' work in a workshop format.