

Creative Writing I

Introduction to Creative Writing English Elective

Course Description:

This English elective helps you develop as a reader and writer of poetry and prose. Through both a crafting of your own works and study of past and current masters of prose and poetry, you discover not only what a poem or story means but also what techniques authors use to create that meaning. You will write in a variety of forms for different audiences and purposes. Elements of fiction such as metaphor, simile, personification, irony, point of view, plot, characterization, dialogue, scene, narration, theme, voice, and style will be explored in the models and developed in your writing. You will understand and use the steps of the writing process. This process includes prewriting, drafting, revising, editing, and publishing. You will analyze and evaluate the effectiveness of written work. The course covers the following genres: poetry, research, and memoir. Creative writing is the process of inventing, the process of making something new and different, something made up. But it also has solid roots in the real-world experiences and memories of the writer—fact and fiction, blending together.

Goals—the student will:

- explore new forms of creative writing
- cultivate the art of revision as part of the writing process
- appreciate the process of interacting with other writers as a means of mutual support
- incorporate Internet technology as part of the learning process
- demonstrate an adequate level of competency in the area of writing mechanics
- learn to identify successful writing techniques through reading literary works
- produce final written drafts that are suitable for publication
- acquire the knowledge of how and where to publish creative writing

Course Outline:

Unit 1— Elements of Poetry

Visual, Syllable, Rhyming Poems

Unit 2—Dead Poet Interview

Research the poet's life

Unit 3— Introduction to Memoir Writing

In your draft memoir or personal narrative, you re-create an incident that happened to you over a short period of time.

Unit 4—Finalize Your Memoir

Final draft & Publish

Course Objectives:

READING - Students will:

- Understand and use different skills and strategies to read
- Understand the meaning of what is read
- Read different materials for a variety of purpose
- Set goals and evaluate progress to improve reading
- Use the Internet to gain useful information

WRITING - Students will:

- Understand and use a writing process
 - Write in a variety of forms for different audiences and purposes
 - Write clearly and effectively
 - Analyze and evaluate the effectiveness of written work
 - Develop a sense of class membership, using discussion boards and e-mail to communicate with teacher and classmates
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Number/Description of Projects, Exams, Activities, etc:

- **20 Activities** – Within each of the units, students must complete formative activities. When completed, the activities provide feedback to students on ways to improve learning for better understanding.
 - **4 Journal Discussion Assignments** – At the end of each of the units, students will complete a journal assignment. The teacher and other students read each journal assignment and provides and feedback.
 - **1 Memoir** – Students use the writing process to complete drafts
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Materials: All course materials have been approved for district use.

Timelines & Methods for evaluating student progress: Students are expected to log in daily and submit assignments on a weekly basis. Progress will be evaluated each month based progress towards assignment completion of assignments.

This course meets state and district **graduation requirements** in the area of English.

Weekly contact will be conducted through a submitted assignment with instructor feedback. Students who do not submit an assignment are expected to email or call his/her instructor.

Each student is expected to spend a **minimum of five hours per week** on this course. Additional hours may be necessary to complete the course successfully.