

Fall/Winter 2018-2019

AP/EN 2600 6.0D (Y)

INTRODUCTION TO CREATIVE WRITING

Course Director:

Jennifer Duncan
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Office: 301C Stong College
Office Hours: Thursday 9:30-11:30 by appointment (arrange by email)

Delivery Format:

Seminar

Time:

Tuesday 2:30pm - 5:30pm, 102 Ross South

Description:

The purpose of the course is to introduce students to the writing of poetry and prose fiction through the practices that comprise the writing lives of published authors. It is designed to familiarize students with the literary traditions and possibilities of these forms, to help them explore creative reading/writing/editing processes, and to discover their talents. As the main focus of these studios is on students developing their own literary writing, and not genre writing, instruction is not formulaic but requires that students, through a community of practice and engagement with the writing life, work actively and independently to make connections between terminology, readings, lectures, and their own creative processes. Readings are to be done before writing the weekly assignment so that techniques, devices and approaches can be discovered. Students are expected to improve and polish their work and to develop an appreciation for, and understanding of, different approaches to literary writing. The main premise of this course is that words are transformative and it is hoped that students will approach this experience with openness, humility, ability to work through the frustration of a challenge and willingness to take risks so that they may transform themselves into emerging artists of the written word.

"A book must be the axe for the frozen sea inside us." – Franz Kafka

"Make it new." – Ezra Pound

NOTE: Students interested only in genre writing (mystery, romance, fantasy) are advised to take courses specifically for this offered by community colleges, The Learning Annex, etc. as the formulaic nature of the writing techniques involved are not appropriate for this university-level course.

Category:

N/A

Historical Requirement:

N/A

Requirements:

15% Participation (including discussing readings, critiquing student work, performing in-class and at-home exercises; exercises to be collected into a Participation Folder)
20% Fiction Assignments
20% Poetry Assignments
15% Tests
30% Final Portfolio: 15-20 pages; this should include selected revised works and, if you wish, some new works. At least 2/3 of the portfolio should be revisions of course work. As well, include a letter of self-evaluation (250-500 words) that will introduce your portfolio and illustrate your critical concerns.

Reading List:

AS/EN 2600 (B/D) course pack
The Broadview Anthology of Short Fiction - Second Edition. Eds. Julia Gaunce, Suzette Mayr, Don LePan, Marjorie Mather, & Bryanne Miller. Broadview Press, 2012.
How to Read (and Write About) Poetry. Ed. Susan Holbrook. Broadview Press, 2015.

Open To:

2nd Year Honors