

ENGL-200: INTRODUCTION TO CREATIVE WRITING 1

Effective Term

Fall 2025

CC Approval

02/07/2025

AS Approval

02/13/2025

BOT Approval

02/20/2025

COCI Approval

04/30/2025

SECTION A - Course Data Elements

CB04 Credit Status

Credit - Degree Applicable

Discipline

Minimum Qualifications	And/Or
English (Master's Degree)	

Subject Code

ENGL - English

Course Number

200

Department

English (ENGL)

Division

Language and Developmental Studies (LADS)

Full Course Title

Introduction to Creative Writing 1

Short Title

Intro to Creative Writing 1

CB03 TOP Code

1507.00 - Creative Writing

CB08 Basic Skills Status

NBS - Not Basic Skills

CB09 SAM Code

E - Non-Occupational

Rationale

Updating common course numbering course change.

SECTION B - Course Description

Catalog Course Description

An introductory course in the practice of creative writing, including work in creative nonfiction, short fiction, and poetry. Emphasis is placed on learning and practicing the basic elements of craft and closely examining the work of published writers and students. There will be some use of workshop format to critique student work.

SECTION C - Conditions on Enrollment

Open Entry/Open Exit

No

Repeatability

Not Repeatable

Grading Options

Letter Grade or Pass/No Pass

Allow Audit

Yes

Requisites

Prerequisite(s)

Eligibility for or completion of ENGL-C1000 or ENGL-120B with a minimum grade of C or appropriate placement.

Requisite Justification

Requisite Description

Course Not in a Sequence

Subject

ENGL

Course

C1000

Level of Scrutiny

Content Review

Upon entering this course, students should be able to:

1. Read, comprehend, and analyze college-level texts of varying lengths, styles, and subjects. Be able to identify main and supporting ideas and underlying structure. Use strategies to infer ideas and respond in writing to them. Summarize and paraphrase texts.
2. Write clearly conceived and well-formulated essays of 750-1000 words which are carefully organized and presented and which are reasonably free from errors. Demonstrate a clear and thoughtful thesis as well as the ability to move from abstract statement to specific support.
3. Demonstrate an awareness of the writing process, specifically the ability to plan, draft, revise, and edit.
4. Possess the study and organizational skills necessary to complete reading assignments of up to 20 pages per class meeting and writing assignments of 1000-1500 words (4-6 pages) every two weeks.

SECTION D - Course Standards

Is this course variable unit?

No

Units

3.00

Lecture Hours

54.00

Outside of Class Hours

108

Total Contact Hours

54

Total Student Hours

162

Distance Education Approval**Is this course offered through Distance Education?**

Yes

Online Delivery Methods

DE Modalities	Permanent or Emergency Only?
Entirely Online	Permanent
Hybrid	Permanent

SECTION E - Course Content**Student Learning Outcomes**

Upon satisfactory completion of the course, students will be able to:	
1.	Students will evaluate an author's use of the conventions of a number of genres (e.g. fiction, poetry, nonfiction) of creative writing.
2.	Students will write original pieces of creative writing demonstrating competency in literary techniques appropriate to the various genres.
3.	Students will learn how to participate effectively in workshops, offering and receiving critiques of writing.

Course Objectives

Upon satisfactory completion of the course, students will be able to:	
1.	Demonstrate an understanding of the basic technical elements of fiction, creative nonfiction, and poetry by applying these elements in their own writing.
2.	Distinguish among a variety of styles and forms of creative prose and poetry.
3.	Examine significant writers as well as aesthetic developments as models to inform students about craft and style.
4.	Apply the stages of the writing process, from the earliest trial stages, through drafting, revision, and editing.
5.	Demonstrate self-expression, fluency, and confidence in writing.
6.	Develop the ability to effectively critique their own writing and the writing of their classmates.

Course Content

Instructors may organize a class according to literary genre or craft elements. They will introduce a variety of published short fiction, poetry and creative non-fiction to inform students' understanding of craft elements as well as the rigors and rewards of each genre.

Instruction will also frame some of the major, ongoing innovations in each genre. This may include a focus on the work of a particular author, a particular form or a particular text.

Instruction will include some instruction in workshop format to critique student work.

Reading and writing skills will be assessed with informal writing responses, e.g., quizzes, journal entries, and short exercises. Students will also submit formal assignments in each genre (poetry, fiction and creative nonfiction).

The course will include instruction in:

1. The Writing Process: Instructors will help students fully utilize the stages of the writing process by:
 - a. assigning multiple short exercises to generate material;
 - b. using readings and exercises to train students' perspective;
 - c. helping students generate drafts in each of the genres;
 - d. helping students generate significant revisions of early drafts;
 - e. using workshop technique for student critiques.
2. The Elements: Students will discuss and practice the following elements of craft:
 - a. vivid, concrete description, particularly in terms of character and setting;
 - b. plot and conflict;
 - c. language choices, including diction and devices of sound;
 - d. voice, tone and point-of-view;
 - e. narration and dialogue;
 - f. scene and summary;
 - g. imagery (metaphor, simile and other figurative language)

- h. formal conventions, stylistic techniques as well as "open" and non-traditional forms;
- i. thematic focus.
- 3. Reading as a Writer. Students will read a variety of texts, in each genre, in order to learn how to:
 - a. analyze form,
 - b. examine technique,
 - c. apply some of those forms and techniques in their own writing.
- 4. The Workshop Process. Students will learn the basic elements of creative writing workshop by focusing on:
 - a. listening to critiques of their own work;
 - b. reading the work of their fellow students closely and constructively;
 - c. learning to provide constructive criticism;
 - d. synthesizing and making use of student feedback about their own work.
- 5. Practice in Creative Nonfiction/Memoir, Fiction, and Poetry. Student will learn and practice the conventions of each genre through the use of informal and formal assignments.

Methods of Instruction

Methods of Instruction

Types	Examples of learning activities
Discussion	
Lecture	
Other	Student presentations, writing practices and workshop focusing on literary works and their construction.

Instructor-Initiated Online Contact Types

Announcements/Bulletin Boards
 Chat Rooms
 Discussion Boards
 E-mail Communication
 Telephone Conversations
 Video or Teleconferencing

Student-Initiated Online Contact Types

Chat Rooms
 Discussions
 Group Work

Course design is accessible

Yes

Methods of Evaluation

Methods of Evaluation

Types	Examples of classroom assessments
Work Assessments	Manuscript production, evaluation of written creative work, written quizzes, written final examinations and/or final portfolio, journals, presentations, workshop and class discussion.
Other	Students will complete a journal comprised of weekly craft exercises based on the textbook reading demonstrating their understanding of various craft elements, such as symbols, metaphors, narration, etc.
Homework	Students will submit a manuscript of 5-10 pages in a genre of their choice demonstrating a thematic focus, vivid description, dramatic conflict and a coherent point of view.

Assignments

Reading Assignments

Weekly textbook and/or anthology readings focusing on fundamental craft elements.

For Example: After reading the chapters "Imagery" and "Insight" in Heather Sellers's *The Practice of Creative Writing*, read Michael Cunningham's short story "White Angel." Note the imagery and details Cunningham uses to establish his characters and advance the tension of the plot. Consider how these images work together to advance the story's thematic insight.

For Example: Read Robert Frost's "Fire and Ice" and look at the conventions of sound and lineation he uses in building the poem. Although it is a non-traditional form, consider how Frost works with the images and connotations of "fire" and "ice" in developing this form.

Writing Assignments

Weekly exercises and short pieces for the first 4 to 10 weeks. Thereafter, longer pieces, submitted in draft and finished form, in each of the three genres. A final project in the student's preferred genre, submitted in at least two drafts. A portfolio of all work completed during the semester.

For Example: As quickly as possible, make a list of 4 nouns, four verbs, and four adjectives/adverbs. Exchange this list with a partner in class. You now have 15 minutes to write a sonnet about your hands which must incorporate all the words from this list.

For Example: Select a longer section (1-2 pages) from the current draft of your fiction manuscript. Rewrite this section utilizing a different Point-of-View technique. Besides 1st-person narration or 3rd-Person omniscient points of view, also consider the minimalist, objective style of Hemingway or Virginia Woolf's stream-of-consciousness techniques.

SECTION F - Textbooks and Instructional Materials

Material Type

Textbook

Author

Janet Burroway

Title

Imaginative Writing

Publisher

Pearson

Year

2014

Material Type

Textbook

Author

Ann Charters

Title

The Story and Its Writer

Publisher

Bedford/St. Martins

Year

2013

Material Type

Textbook

Author

Lisa Roney

Title

Serious Daring: Creative Writing in Four Genres

Publisher

Oxford University Press

Year

2014

Material Type

Textbook

Author

David Starkey

Title

Creative Writing: Four Genres in Brief

Edition/Version

4th edition

Publisher

Macmillan

Year

2022

ISBN #

ISBN:978-1-319-21596-5

Material Type

Other required materials/supplies

Description

1. An anthology of poetry or photocopies of poems.
2. An anthology of creative non-fiction or photocopies of same. Optional: A book on the creative process, e.g. Bird by Bird, Anne Lamott (Anchor)

Course Codes (Admin Only)**ASSIST Update**

No

CB00 State ID

CCC000259834

CB10 Cooperative Work Experience Status

N - Is Not Part of a Cooperative Work Experience Education Program

CB11 Course Classification Status

Y - Credit Course

CB13 Special Class Status

N - The Course is Not an Approved Special Class

CB23 Funding Agency Category

Y - Not Applicable (Funding Not Used)

CB24 Program Course Status

Program Applicable

Allow Pass/No Pass

Yes

Only Pass/No Pass

No

