



MERCER
COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

COURSE OUTLINE

Course Number ENG 215	Course Title Creative Writing I	Credits 3
Hours: Lecture/Lab/Other 3 Lecture	Co- or Pre-requisite Grade of "C" or higher in ENG 102	Implementation Semester & Year Fall 2022

Catalog description

Develops writing skills in various genres, such as fiction, poetry, and essay. Recognized models in literary modes are analyzed for craftsmanship. Through workshop framework, students benefit from peer and instructor criticism and are encouraged to find individual voice under instructor guidance.

General Education Category:
Not GenEd

Course coordinator:
Nicole Homer, (609) 570-3316

Required texts & Other materials:

- One creative writing textbook. Choices include but are not limited to:
 - Crossroads: Creative Writing Exercises in Four Genres by Diane Thiel Or
 - Imaginative Writing: The Elements of Craft, 4th Edition by Janet Burroway
- One full length work of fiction or fiction anthology
- One full-length book of poetry or poetry anthology. (Note: At the instructor's discretion, fiction/poetry anthologies may be replaced by a variety of fiction and poetry handouts.)
- Suggestions for full-length work of fiction or fiction anthology include but are certainly not limited to:
 - Jesus' Son by Denis Johnson
 - The Bluest Eye or Beloved by Toni Morrison
 - The Tenth of December or Pastoralia by George Saunders
 - The Shell Collector by Anthony Doerr
 - The Girl in the Flammable Skirt by Aimee Bender
 - The Anchor Book of New American Short Stories, ed. Ben Marcus
 - Gotham Writer's Workshop: Fiction Gallery, eds. Steele and Didato
- Suggestions for full-length works of poetry or poetry anthologies include but are certainly not limited to:
 - The Best American Poetry 2013, ed. David Lehman
 - 100 Best-Loved Poems, ed. Philip Smith
 - The City in Which I Love You or Rose by Li-Young Lee
 - Stag's Leap: Poems by Sharon Olds
 - Incendiary Art by Patricia Smith
 - Donkey Gospel by Tony Hoagland

Course Student Learning Outcomes (SLO):

Upon successful completion of this course the student will be able to:

1. explain the basic terminology and utilize the basic techniques of craft and genre (essays, fiction, poetry, and drama) to produce new creative work [Supports ILG # 1, 6, 7, 11]

2. identify the differences between effective and ineffective use of the literary conventions and techniques particular to each genre, [Supports ILG # 1,6, 7, 11]
3. close read assigned texts (primary and secondary) to gain an analytical grasp of the writing craft, [Supports ILG # 6, 11]
4. critique, in writing and/or verbally, the literary work of themselves, their peers, and recognized practitioners using knowledge of craft, conventions, and literary with the intent of producing more effective texts through revision, [Supports ILG # 1,6, 11]
5. work collaboratively with peers to complete a group project focusing on some aspect of creative writing, [Supports ILG # 1,4, 6, 10, 11]
6. execute and present a coherent and unified major creative project before the end of the semester that demonstrates revision, [Supports ILG # 1,4, 6, 10, 11]
7. demonstrate a basic understanding of the contemporary landscape in at least one genre under study, and [Supports ILG # 1, 2, 4, 10, 11]
8. research markets and ready creative work for submission. [Supports ILG # 4, 10, 11]

Course-specific Institutional Learning Goals (ILG)

Institutional Learning Goal 1. Written and Oral Communication in English. Students will communicate effectively in both speech and writing.

Institutional Learning Goal 4. Technology. Students will use computer systems or other appropriate forms of technology to achieve educational and personal goals.

Institutional Learning Goal 6. Humanities. Students will analyze works in the fields of art, music, or theater; literature; philosophy and/or religious studies; and/or will gain competence in the use of a foreign language.

Institutional Learning Goal 7. History. Students will understand historical events and movements in World, Western, non-Western or American societies and assess their subsequent significance.

Institutional Learning Goal 8. Diversity and Global Perspective: Students will understand the importance of a global perspective and culturally diverse peoples

Institutional Learning Goal 9. Ethical Reasoning and Action. Students will understand ethical frameworks, issues, and situations.

Institutional Learning Goal 10. Information Literacy: Students will recognize when information is needed and have the knowledge and skills to locate, evaluate, and effectively use information for college level work.

Institutional Learning Goal 11. Critical Thinking: Students will use critical thinking skills understand, analyze, or apply information or solve problems.

Units of study in detail – Unit Student Learning Outcomes:

Unit I **Genre and Elements of Literature [Supports Course SLO # 1, 2, 3, 4]**

Learning Objectives

The student will be able to:

- define creative writing
- identify characteristics of the genre studied (poetry, fiction, creative nonfiction and/or drama),
- Recognize variety of special literary genres like Science Fiction, spoken word, etc.
- compose at least one piece in each genre studied
- define common forms in each genre studied

Unit II **Crafting Literature [Supports Course SLO # 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6]**

Learning Objectives

The student will be able to:

- compose at least one piece in each genre studied
- develop a character in a poetic or fictional creative piece
- develop a landscape in a poetic or fictional creative piece
- define and demonstrate plot in a piece of fiction
- utilize image effectively to accomplish a stated purpose in a creative piece

- explain and demonstrate the purpose of dialog in literature

Unit IV **Process and Workshop [Supports Course SLO # 1, 2, 3, 5, 6,]**

Learning Objectives

The student will be able to:

- compose written work using a journal
- explore the creative process and creative impetus by watching video or listening to audio by a recognized creative writer
- explain their own creative impetus
- critique, verbally and/or in writing, the written work of peers using a variety of workshop formats
- revise their own work by incorporating feedback offered through workshop(s)

Unit V **Publishing [Supports Course SLO # 1, 2, 4, 7]**

Learning Objectives

The student will be able to:

- research publishing opportunities
- list and define the varying types publishing opportunities
- prepare creative works for publishing

Note: Students will likely work on units concurrently.

Evaluation of student learning:

Percentages and categories at Instructor and/or Departmental Discretion:

Class Participation /Discussion	10%
Quizzes	5%
Writing Assignments/Homework	15%
Workshop	40%
Final Portfolio	25%
Final presentation	5%