

University of Arkansas – Fort Smith
5210 Grand Avenue
P. O. Box 3469
Fort Smith, AR 72913-3469
479-788-7000

General Syllabus

ENGL 2853 Introduction to Creative Writing

Credit Hours: 3

Lecture Hours: 3

Laboratory Hours: 0

Prerequisite: ENGL 1213 Composition II or ENGL 1233 Honors Composition or consent of instructor.

Effective Catalog: 2018-2019

I. Course Information

A. Catalog Description

Surveys the major genres of creative writing, including fiction and poetry. Workshop-style focus on craft will develop fundamental skills to understand and appreciate literary expression as a meaningful visual, aural, and oral medium aimed at maturing the aesthetic experience.

B. Additional Information - None

II. Student Learning Outcomes

A. Subject Matter

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

1. Identify craft techniques such as tone, literal and figurative meaning, word choice, imagery, figures of speech, rhyme, meter in written and orally presented explications and analyses of poems stressing the aesthetic and artistic effects achieved.
2. Write unrhymed poetry (free verse) and formal poetry (such as sonnet, villanelle, sestina), employing appropriate poetic craft techniques.
3. Identify craft techniques such as plot, scene structure, theme, literal meaning, character, setting, dialogue, imagery, word choice, point of view, and figures of speech in written and orally presented explications and analyses of short stories and creative nonfiction stressing the aesthetic and artistic effects achieved.
4. Write short pieces of fiction and creative nonfiction employing appropriate craft techniques.
5. Analyze and critique personal, peer, and established writers' literary work.

B. University Learning Outcomes (ULOs)

This course enhances student abilities in the following areas:

Analytical Skills

Critical Thinking Skills: Students will identify problems/issues and develop solutions/analysis. Students will analyze a variety of texts for their rhetorical and/or literary features, as well as analyze the rhetorical situation to which the texts they produce respond.

Communication Skills (written and oral)

Students will communicate proficiently. Students will practice communication skills through discussions, presentations, and a variety of required written assignments.

Ethical Decision Making

Students will model ethical decision-making processes. Students will practice critical response to the writing of others, responsible use of research materials and intellectual property, and the ethical use of persuasion.

Global & Cultural Perspectives

Students will reflect upon cultural differences and their implications for interacting with people from cultures other than their own. Students will analyze the rhetorical situation, produce texts for a variety of audiences, and avoid the use of biased language.

III. Major Course Topics

- A. Poetry
- B. Fiction
- C. Creative Nonfiction
- D. Workshop Discourse Standards
- E. Multicultural Aesthetics