

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

General Syllabus

RHET 3513 Imaginative Writing

Credit Hours: 3

Lecture Hours: 3

Laboratory Hours: 0

Prerequisite: Rhetoric and writing major or creative writing minor, ENGL 1213 Composition II or ENGL 1233 Honors Composition, or consent of instructor.

Effective Catalog: 2019-2020

I. Course Information

A. Catalog Description

Emphasizes the major genres of imaginative writing, including fiction and poetry. Workshop, form, and theory of fiction and poetry are among topics covered.

B. Additional Information

None.

II. Student Learning Outcomes

A. Subject Matter

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

1. Write or orally present explications and/or analyses of poems, evaluating such devices as tone, literal meaning, word choice, imagery, figures of speech, rhyme, and meter.
2. Write both free verse and formal poetry (sonnet, villanelle, sestina, blank verse) with attention to literary devices.
3. Write or orally present reviews and/or criticisms of fiction, evaluating such devices as plot, scene structure, theme, point of view, character, setting, and dialogue.
4. Write short pieces of fiction that adhere to the various literary devices covered in the course.
5. Evaluate personal and peer literary work in a workshop setting.

B. University Learning Outcomes

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. Writing poetry, both formal and free verse
- B. Writing fiction
- C. Critiquing the writing of others in a workshop format
- D. Critiquing the writing of others in a written format
- E. Revising one's own work in response to criticism