Course Information: Fall 2011

English 5-16, Creative Writing

ENG 0005-01
Creative Writing: Fiction
Downing, M
In this workshop, you will work as a writer and reader of new fiction. All participants write original short stories, which they read aloud in class, discuss with their colleagues, and revise during the semester. In addition, they address specific challenges of tone, style, structure, and point of view by writing brief experimental fictions (50 to 250 words), which illustrate how writers invent dramatically different solutions to a single problem. There are two fundamental requirements: Be present. Be productive. At the semester's end, writers select their best work and compile a portfolio to represent their progress and accomplishments.

ENG 0005-02
Creative Writing: Fiction
Downing, M
In this workshop, you will work as a writer and reader of new fiction. All participants write original short stories, which they read aloud in class, discuss with their colleagues, and revise during the semester. In addition, they address specific challenges of tone, style, structure, and point of view by writing brief experimental fictions (50 to 250 words), which illustrate how writers invent dramatically different solutions to a single problem. There are two fundamental requirements: Be present. Be productive. At the semester's end, writers select their best work and compile a portfolio to represent their progress and accomplishments.

ENG 0005-03
Creative Writing: Fiction
Hershman, M
Our fiction workshop focuses on the power to be found in concision, where a writer's skill at crafting essential details serves to deepen a work. The first four weeks highlight in-class writing exercises and discussions of published short stories; students also write a series of interlinked scenes to explore ideas about voice, character development, pacing, plot, and the surprises inherent in deep imagination. Over the balance of the term and in response to meeting individual deadlines, students present two full short stories, one rewrite, and one short-short for workshop discussion, editing, and critique.

ENG 0005-04
Creative Writing: Fiction
Hershman, M
Our fiction workshop focuses on the power to be found in concision, where a writer's skill at crafting essential details serves to deepen a work. The first four weeks highlight in-class writing exercises and discussions of published short stories; students also write a series of interlinked scenes to explore ideas about voice, character development, pacing, plot, and the surprises inherent in deep imagination. Over the balance of the term and in response to meeting individual deadlines, students present two full short stories, one rewrite, and one short-short for workshop discussion, editing, and critique.

ENG 0005-05
Creative Writing: Fiction
Hurka, J
This course is designed to help you develop the essential elements of creative prose: voice, description, and empathy. Particular emphasis will be placed on precision of language, and how the voice of a story must work in tandem with conscience.

You'll also have a look at fiction, poetry, and essays written by masters. We will investigate the current publishing world, so that if you want to send out your work at the end of the semester, you can do so. Finally, I would like you to read your work in progress on class days that we will schedule together, and to comment carefully and thoughtfully on the work of your classmates when they do the same.

ENG 0005-06
Creative Writing: Fiction
Hurka, J
This course is designed to help you develop the essential elements of creative prose: voice, description, and empathy. Particular emphasis will be placed on precision of language, and how the voice of a story must work in tandem with conscience.

You'll also have a look at fiction, poetry, and essays written by masters. We will investigate the current publishing world, so that if you want to send out your work at the end of the semester, you can do so. Finally, I would like you to read your work in progress on class days that we will schedule together, and to comment carefully and thoughtfully on the work of your classmates when they do the same.

ENG 0005-07
Creative Writing: Fiction
Johnston, S
This is an intensive course for those who really want to learn to write. No previous experience is necessary, though students who have studied creative writing before are welcome and often enjoy the course—we even get some former students who return for a second semester. In the course, you'll work closely on every phase of writing fiction: generating ideas, drafting, and revision. As you do so, you'll have a chance to explore and discover your voice as a writer, as well as learning how to develop strong fictional characters, working with the elements of plot and point of view, learning to write and punctuate dialogue, and employing setting, subtext, and theme. Be prepared to work hard, but if you love to write, you'll get a lot of feedback on your work. Student response from the past indicates that this course is challenging but fun.

ENG 0005-08
Creative Writing: Fiction
Johnston, S
This is an intensive course for those who really want to learn to write. No previous experience is necessary, though students who have studied creative writing before are welcome and often enjoy the course—we even get some former students who return for a second semester. In the course, you'll work closely on every phase of writing fiction: generating ideas, drafting, and revision. As you do so, you'll have a chance to explore and discover your voice as a writer, as well as learning how to develop strong fictional characters, working with the elements of plot and point of view, learning to write and punctuate dialogue, and employing setting, subtext, and theme. Be prepared to work hard, but if you love to write, you'll get a lot of feedback on your work. Student response from the past indicates that this course is challenging but fun.

ENG 0005-09
Creative Writing: Fiction
Strong, J
This section of English 5 will provide a forum for constructively criticizing each other's work. There will be regular deadlines and everything will be read aloud in class. You will be expected to write character-driven fiction in language natural to you, attend faithfully and participate with spirit.

ENG 0005-10
Creative Writing: Fiction
Weesner, Jr., T
This course is an introduction to fiction writing. Our mission through the semester will be to examine and practice the craft that underpins a well-made short story. Often we will come together as a workshop, where we will help a writer to see the range of possibility in his or her work. Other activities will include weekly readings from an anthology of contemporary fiction—to take apart, to study as potential models—and exercises that will allow for further practice of various fictional techniques. Of the two longer stories you write, one will be substantively revised. In a larger sense you will have the opportunity to find both your creative voice and the stories you need to tell. By delving into the craft of fiction writing, we will look to uncover a measure of its mystery and art.

ENG 0005-11
Creative Writing: Fiction
Weesner, Jr., T
This course is an introduction to fiction writing. Our mission through the semester will be to examine and practice the craft that underpins a well-made short story. Often we will come together as a workshop, where we will help a writer to see the range of possibility in his or her work. Other activities will include weekly readings from an anthology of contemporary fiction—to take apart, to study as potential models—and exercises that will allow for further practice of various fictional techniques. Of the two longer stories you write, one will be substantively revised. In a larger sense
you will have the opportunity to find both your creative voice and the stories you need to tell. By delving into the craft of fiction writing, we will look to uncover a measure of its mystery and art.

ENG 0005-12
Creative Writing: Fiction
Levinson, N
This course is for students who want to write good stories. One way to develop that ability is to write a lot, so work includes several short pieces, a longer, fully-realized story, some revisions and lots of talk. The class operates primarily as a workshop, in which we discuss each other's work and the elements and sum of accomplished fiction. Students also work on developing their ideas about good writing by reading published stories and what writers have to say about their work.

ENG 0006-01
Creative Writing: Poetry
Gibson, R
A workshop in writing poetry is a place to experiment. We will try on various accomplishments in the poetic tradition – metrics, rhyme schemes, free verse, stanza breaks, shapes, tone, even content, etc. In this class, you will sometimes attempt to imitate, and find it oddly liberating. You may throw out these experiments once accomplished, and try something entirely different. You may embrace old forms as your own. Sometimes, the very poems you've shied away from are the ones waiting to teach you! The class is a workshop with some assigned exercises.

ENG 0006-02
Creative Writing: Poetry
Gibson, R
A workshop in writing poetry is a place to experiment. We will try on various accomplishments in the poetic tradition – metrics, rhyme schemes, free verse, stanza breaks, shapes, tone, even content, etc. In this class, you will sometimes attempt to imitate, and find it oddly liberating. You may throw out these experiments once accomplished, and try something entirely different. You may embrace old forms as your own. Sometimes, the very poems you've shied away from are the ones waiting to teach you! The class is a workshop with some assigned exercises.

ENG 0006-03
Creative Writing: Poetry
Gosztyla, M
This course is a beginning poetry workshop whose primary text is your poems. Each week we will read and discuss your work. We'll be thinking about what makes a powerful free verse poem as you develop a more sophisticated vocabulary regarding the high art of making poems. Requirements for the class include your willingness to write a great deal, to attend class regularly, and to meet with me in conference over the course of the semester.

ENG 0006-04
Creative Writing: Poetry
Gosztyla, M
This course is a beginning poetry workshop whose primary text is your poems. Each week we will read and discuss your work. We'll be thinking about what makes a powerful free verse poem as you develop a more sophisticated vocabulary regarding the high art of making poems. Requirements for the class include your willingness to write a great deal, to attend class regularly, and to meet with me in conference over the course of the semester.

ENG 0007-01
Creative Writing: Journalism
Miller, N
This course is an introduction to the nuts-and-bolts of print journalism. We'll focus on researching and writing news stories, features, profiles, opinion pieces, and reviews. The aim of the course will be to develop reporting and interviewing skills, master journalistic principles and forms, and encourage clear thinking and clear writing. Students will cover stories both on- and off-campus. They will read their work in class, with class members taking on the roles of editors. We'll also take a close look at the local and national press and examine how they cover various stories.

ENG 0009-01
Writing Fiction: Intermediate
Strong, J
This section of English 9 is designed for students who have had some experience in writing fiction. It will provide
deadlines, a forum for reading aloud and constructively criticizing each other's work, and the expectation that you will create character-driven fiction in language natural to you, attend faithfully, and participate with spirit.

ENG 0010-01
Nonfiction Writing
Miller, N
This course will explore various forms of non-fiction writing, including memoir, profile, descriptive and personal essay, travel-writing, and reviews. Throughout the semester students will work on series of short weekly papers. Towards the end of the course, they will complete a longer piece of work in a particular area of interest. Students will read their work in class as often as possible, with classes functioning as workshops. During the semester, the instructor will assign readings that correspond to the area of non-fiction we are focusing on at a particular point, and these readings will be discussed in class. Limited to 12.

ENG 0011-01
Intermediate Journalism
Levinson, N
How news media will function in the coming years is up for grabs, but the nuts and bolts of good journalism still apply: getting the story by tuning into events and convincing people to tell you what you need to know; finding and using primary sources effectively; investigating and analyzing events; and reporting them accurately and engagingly. This seminar gives students with some journalism experience the opportunity to work intensively on their reporting and writing skills, while learning about the craft and business of the field. Students work independently, covering topics of their choosing, and writing news and feature stories for print and electronic publications. The class also covers ethical, legal and practical issues, at times meeting with professional journalists. Please note: Qualified students should be familiar with the basics of news writing.

ENG 0013-01
Writing Fiction: Advanced
Wilson, J
More advanced than English 10, English 13 is open without permission to students who have already taken at least two fiction-writing courses at any level. Students who have not taken two courses but who have done a fair amount of writing on their own may be admitted with permission of the instructor. English 13 may be repeated for credit.

ENG 0016-01
Forms of Poetry
Peterson, K
This course is intended for students who have already taken at least two poetry writing courses at the beginning and intermediate levels. The goal of this workshop will be for advanced student poets to create their best work. Our primary text will be student poems and our primary activity will be the workshop, where we will focus on strategies of economy and revision. The occasional assigned reading material for the course will range from ancient to contemporary, and will emphasize craft and composition while focusing specifically on diction, tone, and voice. Independent student reading projects will be tailored towards individual need. The written work for the course will consist of the creation of a portfolio of original poems and a single work of critical prose (not a traditional essay, but an imaginative inquiry into a question pertaining to your own creative efforts).