English 2307 Syllabus
Eastfield College

Instructor Information
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Course Information
Course Title: Creative Writing I
Course Number: ENGL 2307
Section Number: 49400
Semester/Year: Spring 2020, Harvesterterm I
Credit Hours: 3
Class Meeting Time/Location: This is a fully online course.
Certification Date: January 27, 2020
Last Day to Withdraw: February 26, 2020

Course Prerequisites
Recommended: ENGL 1301 and ENGL 1302.

Course Description
Practical experience in the techniques of imaginative writing. May include fiction, nonfiction, poetry, screenwriting, or drama.

Student Learning Outcomes
Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

- Demonstrate knowledge of individual and collaborative creative writing processes.
- Analyze, interpret, and evaluate a variety of texts (from professional and student writers) for logical, ethical, and aesthetic uses of the elements of creative writing.
- Write in a style that clearly shows (not tells) a significant content/message of the human condition, applies appropriate genre structure, and is error-free in mechanics (grammar and punctuation).
- Develop ideas and apply the major elements of poetry, short story, and one-act play within focused drafts, including one or more publication-submission-ready manuscripts.
- Apply the conventions of publisher’s style requirements for specific creative
writing genres (poetry, short story, one-act play) in final drafts (publication-submission ready manuscripts).

Texas Core Objectives
The College defines essential knowledge and skills that students need to develop during their college experience. These general education competencies parallel the Texas Core Objectives for Student Learning. In this course, the activities you engage in will give you the opportunity to practice two or more of the following core competencies:

1. **Critical Thinking Skills** - to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information.

2. **Communication Skills** - to include effective development, interpretation, and expression of ideas through written, oral, and visual communication.

3. **Empirical and Quantitative Skills** - to include the manipulation and analysis of numerical data or observable facts resulting in informed conclusions.

4. **Teamwork** - to include the ability to consider different points of view and to work effectively with others to support a shared purpose or goal.

5. **Personal Responsibility** - to include the ability to connect choices, actions, and consequences to ethical decision-making.

6. **Social Responsibility** - to include intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities.

Required Course Materials
- Reading assignments will be posted on Google Classroom and Ecampus.
- Video lessons, streamed from Google Classroom
- Recommended: Use of a good dictionary and thesaurus

Note: A student of this institution is not under any obligation to purchase a textbook from a university-affiliated bookstore. The same textbook may also be available from an independent retailer, including an online retailer.
Graded Work

The tables below provide a summary of the graded work in this course and an explanation of how your final course grade will be calculated.

Summary of Graded Work

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignments</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Assignments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chapbooks (2)</td>
<td>40% of total grade</td>
<td>Fiction (20%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Poetry (20%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>10% of total grade</td>
<td>reflective essay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drafts (?)</td>
<td>20% of total grade (lowest grade dropped)</td>
<td>process</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exercises (?)</td>
<td>15% of total grade (lowest grade dropped)</td>
<td>process</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quizzes (?)</td>
<td>8% of total grade (lowest grade dropped)</td>
<td>process</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discussion Board/Workshop (2)</td>
<td>7% of total grade</td>
<td>process</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Final Grade

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentages</th>
<th>Letter Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>90-100%</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80-89%</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70-79%</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60-69%</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0-59%</td>
<td>F</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Description of Graded Work

Process

You will do quizzes over reading assignments and lessons (usually information
about a genre, idea, or form in literature and examples of such). **Exercises** are activities which should lead you to writing new material. They should be expanded and revised into complete works. **Drafts** are “nearly complete” pieces which follow the parameters of the individual assignment. Two **discussion boards** will be your opportunity to share work with your classmates and to provide feedback for that work.

**Chapbooks**

With feedback from others and me, you will develop, revise, polish, and submit **two chapbooks**. Each manuscript (one with fiction and the other with poetry) will be culled from pieces composed from the *Process* work, with none coming from outside of the “class” environment. Detailed information, including features of the writing, and guidelines for selection, are available on Google Classroom, and Ecampus.

**Final Exam**

You'll also write **one essay** at the end of the semester. This will be a reflective essay over the course. You may use a dictionary or thesaurus as you write the essay. This essay must adhere to proper MLA standards for formatting and submission, and must adhere to the instructions set forth by the instructor. This assignment is worth ten percent of the total grade.

**Attendance and Your Final Grade**

**Classroom Participation**: To be considered present and earn the relevant process points, you need to be fully prepared, present (both mentally and physically) for each entire class session, and a productive participant in individual, small group, and large group activities. Examples of productive participation include behaviors such as listening carefully to others, making relevant comments, asking useful questions, responding thoughtfully to your peers' drafts, helping to keep small-group discussions on task, and volunteering to serve as recorder or spokesperson for small group activities. All electronic devices, including cell phones, MUST be turned off and not looked at during class.

**Attendance** (in face-to-face or hybrid sections): In this course, both in-class and on-line activities (e.g. writing, talking, reading, responding) play an important role in your development as a writer, reader, and learner, so your attendance and participation are crucial for your success. To be considered present on class days, you need to be a productive participant (see the definition above) who is prepared and physically present for the entire class session; to be considered present outside of class, you must have completed the on-line work by all deadlines. Here are specific penalties connected with attendance:

- For 2 absences, you will lose 10 points from your course total.
- For 4 or more absences, you will receive an automatic F in the course.
- If you are more than ten minutes late, you are considered absent.
- Three times late to class equals one absence.
Participation and feedback:

As a part of the attendance policy, you should note my guidelines on properly formatted writing assignments. After two warnings to format work correctly, I stop providing feedback for any writing assignments that do not adhere to the formatting guidelines provided for you on this syllabus and on the course website (“Formatting”). This is because I believe the student may not be reading feedback, and thus not fully participating in the course. If in doubt, ask.

Notes on feedback: Do not expect traditional feedback in this course. On your first rough draft, I will note examples of up to three sentence-level errors. I will do this on no other paper. Instead, I will focus on content and organization, leaving general notes about sentence-level problems. I urge you to take advantage of my offer of extra credit for taking work to the Writing Center, and if you need more help, to make arrangements to meet with me during office hours.

Regarding Financial Aid: Note: “Students who are receiving any form of financial aid should check with the Financial Aid Office prior to withdrawing from classes. Withdrawals may affect your eligibility to receive further aid and could cause you to be in a position of repayment for the current semester. Students who fail to attend or participate after the drop date are also subject to this policy.”

Late Work Policy

Late work is not accepted except under extreme circumstances (and only for major assignments). Documentation will be required. If you must be absent when a paper is due, it is your responsibility to get it turned in on time and in the appropriate fashion.

Academic Dishonesty

Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating on tests, plagiarism and collusion. Cheating includes copying from another student’s test or homework paper, using materials not authorized, collaborating with or seeking aid from another student during a test, knowingly using, buying, selling, stealing, or soliciting the contents of an unadministered test, and substituting for another person to take a test. Plagiarism is the appropriating, buying, receiving as a gift, or obtaining by any means another’s work and the unacknowledged submission or incorporation of it in one’s own written work. Collusion is the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing written work for fulfillment of course requirements. Academic dishonesty is a serious offense in college. You can be given a failing grade on an assignment or test or even be suspended from college. Students who are determined to be involved in such activities shall be punished as prescribed by college and Board policies outlined in the Student Code of Conduct.

I do report instances of academic dishonesty to the appropriate authorities. The first instances of cheating in this course results in a zero for the assignment. A second (and subsequent) instances will mean an automatic F grade in the course. Please note that in this course, it is your responsibility to keep all drafts of your writing from your
initial plans and notes to the final draft so that you can demonstrate your process and the originality of your work. Also note that in this course, in addition to any other penalty that might be deemed appropriate, students will receive a zero on any work that involves academic dishonesty (even if on only a portion of the assignment), and I will submit letters describing any incidents of academic dishonesty to the appropriate authorities. I take academic dishonesty quite seriously, and so should you.

The DCCCD Student Code of Conduct, available on-line, includes additional information about academic dishonesty as well as information about other unacceptable behaviors. I expect all students to be familiar with their rights and responsibility, and to consider the Code of Conduct part of this syllabus.

Institutional Policies

Institutional Policies relating to this course can be accessed using the link below. These policies include information about tutoring, Disabilities Services, class drop and repeat options, Title IX, and more.

Eastfield Institutional Policies (http://www.eastfieldcollege.edu/syllabipolicies)

Course Schedule

All course activities are listed on the Calendars on Ecampus and Google Classroom. Typically, I try to list assignments and activities a week ahead of time so students can plan their course work around the work and personal schedules. Depending on the assignments, I do have them open a day or more early, but once the due date has passed, I do not reopen them (see late work policy above).

I do not release all assignments at once. This is because feedback on some assignments is important for you to do well on subsequent work.

Please contact me by email if you have any questions about the schedule.