

## **ENG 2307 Creative Writing**

### **Course Description**

This course is designed to introduce students to the forms, strategies, and techniques involved in creative writing. The student may be given a series of directed assignments which may be critiqued in class.

Creative writing is the display of imagination through the composition of poetry, fiction, and non-fiction (essay and memoir). We will study, discuss and practice the main genres of creative writing.

### **Student Learning Outcomes**

By the end of the course, you should understand of the following:

- Basic techniques & terminology
- Writing Poetry
- Writing Creative Non-Fiction
- Writing Fiction
- Critical Reading
- Critiquing others work

These objectives will be accomplished and evaluated through the following work:

- published works
  - examination
  - analysis
- creation of original poems
- creation of original non-fiction essays
- creation of an original short story
- revision of original work

Your final grade will be a combination of the following factors:

- attendance
- class participation
- in-class writing & possible quizzes
- workshop critiques
- Final Portfolio

### **Grading:**

In accordance with HCC policy, final grades in this course will be whole letter grades based on the following scale: 90 - 100 = A, 80 - 89 = B, 70 - 79 = C, 60 - 69 = D, 59 or below = F.

Though judging creative writing is at least to some degree a subjective process, we will endeavor to make the grading as objective as possible. The individual components are as follows:

- Attendance/Participation
- In-Class Writing and Exercises
- Workshop Critiques
- Book Critique
- Portfolio

#### **General Contact Information:**

- Email - [info@detrickhuges.com](mailto:info@detrickhuges.com)
- Phone – (832) 779-0070

#### **ATTENDANCE POLICY**

Regular attendance is required at Houston Community College. HCCS class policy states that a student who is absent more than 12.5% (6 hours) of class has not been present for enough instruction.

#### **SPECIAL CONDITIONS**

Any student with a documented disability (e.g. physical, learning, psychiatric, vision, hearing, etc.) who needs to arrange reasonable accommodations must contact the Disability Services Office at the respective college at the beginning of each semester. Faculty are authorized to provide only the accommodations requested by the Disability Support Services Office.

#### **DUE DATES AND MAKE UPS**

Late assignments will receive a 10-point deduction for each class period the essay is late. Late essays will not be accepted after one week. Please arrange a conference with me to discuss the reasons for any late essays. Please keep a copy of your essays for your own file; should an essay be lost, it is your responsibility to give me another. No make-ups on daily class work! No make-ups on final exams! All work for the class must be turned in by the time and date of the final or it will not be calculated in your final grade.

#### **ACADEMIC HONESTY**

Plagiarism results in a grade of zero on that project. Plagiarism includes, but is not limited to, using words and/or ideas from other sources without giving proper credit.

Consult your online student handbook on scholastic dishonesty. Cheating and/or collusion also result in a grade of zero on that project (includes rough drafts). The second offense will result in a Failing grade for the course. Students should be aware that the professor will be using plagiarism detection software and Internet sources to check student work for potential plagiarism. No opportunities for rewriting/resubmitting the plagiarized project will be given. This policy will be strictly enforced.

#### **FREE ENGLISH TUTORING**

The Southwest College offers you numerous opportunities for free English tutoring at our tutoring centers (Stafford, West Loop, and Missouri City) or our online tutoring support services. Signs will be posted once the HCC tutoring hours have been established. Online tutoring is also available at [www.hccs.askonline.net](http://www.hccs.askonline.net) (can be accessed through HCC Southwest Homepage).

### **OPEN COMPUTER LAB**

Students have free access to the Internet and word processing in the open computer labs available at southwest campuses. Check on the door of the open computer lab for hours of operation, or go to the Southwest Homepage and click on the Open Computer Labs link.

### **LIBRARY (LEARNING RESOURCE CENTER)**

The Southwest College has a Learning Resource Center at each campus for student use. The library provides electronic resources including a computerized catalog system as well as numerous databases that contain full-text articles. Stop by your campus library to find out hours of operation.

### **STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS**

Organizations of interest to students taking English classes are:

Southwest Writers is a group of students who write and read their works (in a public forum as well as on the Internet) and receive peer support and constructive criticism. Students in this group create a supportive network to create poetry, fiction, drama, and non-fiction prose. Contact advisor Chris Dunn at: [Christopher.Dunn@hccs.edu](mailto:Christopher.Dunn@hccs.edu). Phi Theta Kappa is the honor society of two-year colleges. Students must earn a 3.5 grade point average and accumulate 12 credit hours.

HCCS has a very active chapter: Omega Sigma.

Numerous transfer scholarships are offered through this honors organization. Contacts are available at [www.omegasigma.org](http://www.omegasigma.org). The Southwest College advisor is Eunice Kallarackal at [eunice.kallarackal@hccs.edu](mailto:eunice.kallarackal@hccs.edu). The Women's Studies Club meets each month and online to discuss the roles of women and men in society and to investigate how sexual differences and cultural constructions of gender may affect identity. The club promotes awareness of gender issues on campus, encourages research and discussions of gender issues, host prominent speakers in the field, and serves the community. Contact Marie Dybala at [marie.dybala@hccs.edu](mailto:marie.dybala@hccs.edu).

### **INCLEMENT WEATHER**

During inclement weather conditions, monitor major local channels for updates on school closings. As possible, the school will update the website with any closures. You can also check for school closings at [www.school-closings.net](http://www.school-closings.net)

## **ELECTRONIC POLICIES**

1. Turn off and put away all cell phones, beepers, text-messaging devices and other electronic devices when class starts. The sound of cell phones ringing during class is disruptive. Students should not leave the class to make a call or answer one (or worse - answer a call in class). Text messaging during class means that you are not paying attention and displays your lack of respect for the professor.
2. No Bluetooth devices in ears allowed during class.
3. No MP3 players or other music devices with earphones allowed during class.
4. No laptops open during class without permission from professor.

## **USE OF CAMERAS AND RECORDING DEVICES**

Use of recording devices, including camera phones and tape recorders, is prohibited in classrooms, laboratories, faculty offices, and other locations where instruction, tutoring, or testing occurs. These devices are also not allowed to be used in campus restrooms. Students with disabilities who need to use a recording device as a reasonable accommodation should contact the Office for Students with Disabilities for information regarding reasonable accommodations.

## **COMPUTER LAB POLICIES**

No exceptions to the following rules will be made. The following rules will be strictly enforced.

1. NO cell phones.
2. NO unauthorized chatting.
3. NO downloading AOL.com.
4. NO food or drinks.
5. NO printing personal information or downloading material unrelated to class. Printing is limited.
6. NO pornography.
7. NO hacking attempts or access to the numerous hacking sites.
8. NO students in the lab without an instructor.
9. Please log off but do NOT shut down the computer after use.
10. Only Microsoft Word can be used in the lab. Microsoft Works will not convert, and students will not be able to use it. Use a flash drive or some other external method of saving work.
11. Students are not allowed to save to the hard drive of the computer. Students should save their work frequently. Students must label their drives with name, professor's name, class, and class meeting time. Students might want to bring more than one drive.
12. Keyboard and mouse are not to be moved to the desktop for health reasons.

## **OTHER COURSE POLICIES**

1. Please come to class on time and be prepared. Your attendance, active participation, and preparation are significant to your grade. Remember, when you are late to class or leave early, those minutes add up and count toward your allowable 6 hours of class time. I do keep track of this on my roll sheet.
2. I am not responsible for missed material. It is the student's responsibility to obtain missed information. Do not expect the professor to be able to "sum up" the class in a few minutes time.
3. If you must leave early, please tell me before class starts. However, right before class starts is not a good time for conferencing. Wait until a class break or after class has ended.
4. Please stay in class once class begins. Take care of personal business before or after class. Leaving during class for a bathroom break, a trip to the vending machines, or to the hall to answer a phone call is disruptive and does count towards your missed class hours.
5. I dismiss class fifteen minutes early, so please do not pack books before class is dismissed.
6. Please do not chat with class colleagues during discussion.
7. The out-of-class essays must be typed using MLA Format. Please use Microsoft Word. The in-class essays will be written either in blue books purchased in the bookstore or on the computer in the computer lab.
8. Please remember that we are discussing current, sensitive, and controversial issues. Please be courteous to your classmates in your speech and tone—but do not be afraid to share your ideas. Good learning attitude, cooperative demeanor, and courteous behavior all go a long way with me!