

Creative Writing

Writing 1 and 2

This freshman class teaches students the basics of writing, including purpose, audience, grammar, mechanics, conventions, usage, and similar subjects. Students write in response to prompts, and learn from diverse texts what different forms of writing look and sound like.

Creative Writing 1 and 2

This course will serve as a touchstone for higher-level writing courses.

1st nine-weeks: Short Stories, Vignettes, and Flash Fiction.

2nd nine-weeks: The Novel.

3rd nine-weeks: Nonfiction, including personal narrative essays and articles and poetry.

4th nine-weeks: Writing portfolio compilation with some drama and other genres interspersing project work.

Creative Writing 3

This class will focus on intensive study of primarily prose genres, with minor emphases on poetry and hybrid genres toward the end of term.

1st nine-weeks: higher-level contemporary short stories by such authors as George Saunders, Karen Russell, Benjamin Percy, Porochista Khakpour, and similar writers. Personal narrative essays and articles by diverse writers will also be explored.

2nd nine-weeks: The memoir and its devices.

3rd nine-weeks: Nonfiction including biography, autobiography, and real-life-inspired poetry.

4th nine-weeks: Writing portfolio compilation with some drama and other genres interspersing project work.

DVP 3 - Screenwriting I

Focus on story (including plot, conflict, character development, etc.) as it relates to the visual storytelling medium of film. Read and study scripts by professionals to gain an understanding of screenwriting as a craft. Produce several short original treatments.

Creative Writing 4

This course is geared towards cross-genre specific studies nearing the college level.

1st nine-weeks: Canonized and Contemporary short stories for comparison and contrast. These will be organized and assigned thematically.

2nd nine-weeks: The Contemporary American Novel and its roots in the canon.

3rd nine-weeks: The Poem and its forms. Also, higher-level nonfiction works will be assigned and assessed.

4th nine-weeks: Portfolio compilation and exams.

Playwriting

Students will learn the fundamentals of creating a script to be performed on stage. The class will include Stage Readings in the fall and culminate with a 10-Minute Play Festival in the spring. Students will research playwrights and the cultural, political and socio-economic conditions surrounding their works. The class will also write and present adaptations of children's stories to Polk County elementary school students through Reading Comes Alive.

Creative Writing 5

This course will be focused on advanced literature study and production. The student will be responsible for creating one extended work of each genre during each nine-week period.

1st nine-weeks: Writing the novella.

2nd nine-weeks: Writing the nonfiction collection.

3rd nine-weeks: Writing the poetry collection.

4th nine-weeks: Creating the polished manuscript (student choice of genre).

Various advanced-level texts will supplement each nine weeks' study and writing, although the focus of this senior seminar-style course will be the production of a broad, professional writing portfolio for possible use at the college level and beyond. Some manuscripts will be submitted for publication beyond Harrison.

Great Books

This class allows students at multiple levels to become exposed to and appreciate important books from a wide variety of genres. Literary devices, tropes, and similar subjects also are part of this class's content.

Literature in the Arts 1 & 2

The purpose of this course is to enable students, using texts and artistic works of high complexity, to develop knowledge of the relationship between literature and the fine arts through advanced integrated educational experiences of viewing, reading, writing, speaking and listening, and language. Emphasis will be on the varied cultural influences highlighting the major themes, issues, and topics associated throughout selected literary and artistic periods.

Journalism 5

The purpose of this course is to enable students to perform advanced work in the production of journalism across print, multimedia, web, and broadcast/radio platforms and to develop advanced knowledge of journalism history, ethics use, and management techniques related to the production of journalistic media. School and professional publication efforts are expected.