



Creative Writing 1
Course Syllabus 2021-2022
Mr. Taylor / jason.taylor@hcps.org

Course Description

Creative Writing isn't just a class about writing. It's a process, both in the craft of writing and self-discovery. We will attempt to improve upon your skills as a writer, a thinker, and a generator of ideas through examining trends in contemporary works of literature. Students will perform daily writing exercises, draft original works, and workshop their writings among their peers. Students will also become familiar with literary performance. The result of this course will be knowledge and composition of short fiction and poetry.

Goals for Student Learning

The following goals will be pursued during the year.

- Identify and utilize various elements of poetry and short fiction.
- Process a variety of reading selections.
- Work effectively in work-shopping groups.
- Produce various writing pieces to develop writing skills and assemble a creative portfolio.
- Students will learn to take responsibility for their own decisions and the results of those decisions.
- Students will become self-regulated thinkers.

So what does this mean for you? By the end of the course, you'll be able to show the world just what you want it to see by paying attention and developing your own style.

Textbook and Materials

You will be required to bring a writing instrument and a two-section notebook every day. Additionally, please come prepared for class. You will not be allowed to print your materials during class time. FOR REAL.

Our class text is *The Creative Writer's Craft*.

Course Outline

The primary concept for this class is "Show, don't tell." This axiom defines good writing, and this course will show you the basics. You'll write several poems (first semester) and short stories (second semester) in service of this concept. Your Daybook will house your rough drafts for each of these assignments.

HCPS Grading Policy

Examples of Product, Process, and Practice		
PRODUCT (50%) <i>Culminating Demonstration of Knowledge</i>	PROCESS (30%) <i>Addressing Specific Short-Term Learning Outcomes</i>	PRACTICE (20%) <i>Building Attitudes, Habits, and Skills</i>
Does it measure how well students achieved specific learning goals, standards, and/or competencies?	Does it provide feedback to students regarding growth towards the attainment of specific learning goals, standards and competencies?	Does it allow students to practice skills and/or reinforce content learning?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Primarily completed in presence of teacher • Rubric aligned to standards • Accuracy graded 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Primarily completed in presence of teacher • Rubric aligned to standards • Accuracy graded 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Graded for completion and participation

Late Work Policy

All assignments should be submitted on time in order to earn full credit. Any assignment, (*product, process, or practice*) will be allowed to be turned in late for one letter grade deduction from the grade a student earns on the assignment. In order to earn credit for late assignments, students must submit assignments by the end of the day on Wednesday (except for the last week of the quarter) following the designated HAC update. Students are only able to submit assignments that have an established due date within the grading window before the designated HAC update. Assignment that are turned in for late credit will be identified by a footnote in HAC to include a statement about the deduction of a letter grade due to the lateness of the assignment.

Grading Window	Designated HAC Update	Late Work Due Date
September 8- September 24	September 24	September 29
September 27- October 13	October 13	October 20
October 14- October 29	October 29	November 5 (Friday)
November 8- November 19	November 19	November 24
November 22- December 10	December 10	December 15
December 13- January 13	January 13	January 21 (Friday)
January 24- February 11	February 11	February 16
February 14- February 25	February 25	March 2
February 28- March 11	March 11	March 16
March 14- March 25	March 25	March 31 (Thursday)
April 1- April 22	April 22	April 27
April 25- May 6	May 6	May 11
May 11- May 20	May 20	May 25

Make-up Work

In order for you to be academically successful, you need to be organized and have regular attendance in school. Please use the student planner to record due dates and plan your homework schedule. It is your responsibility to pick up any make-up work from me on the first day of your return.

Academic Integrity

Academic integrity is taking responsibility for the quality and completion of one's own work. Academic dishonesty is taking someone else's work and claiming it as one's own. Students at Bel Air High School are responsible for knowing what is considered to be Academic Dishonesty and the subsequent consequences.

Unless a teacher has expressly stated in the assignment instructions that the task is one that is collaborative, it should be assumed that the assessment is an individual endeavor. Cheating, whether verbal, written, or computer generated, can involve, but is not limited to:

- Copying on tests
- Copying of homework
- Plagiarism of published works (including Internet resources)
- Multiple submission of work previously turned in for a grade by another student
- Giving answers to a test or homework
- Discussion of test materials with others
- Using electronic devices to communicate any contents of homework, tests, or quizzes
- Using electronic devices without teacher permission to acquire information during class hours

Cell Phone Policy

- Students will place their cellphones in a teacher designated area as they enter each classroom. Teachers will review with students the specific location for each room. The phones will remain in the teacher designated area unless teachers explicitly tell students to take out the phones for instructional use.
- Cellphones will remain in the teacher designated area during bathroom visits, assemblies and trips to the nurse/counseling office/main office.
- Cellphones will be retrieved from the teacher designated area at the end of class at the direction of the teacher.
- School-appropriate cellphone use is permitted during class changes and lunch. Students are not permitted to make phone calls during school hours.
- If the cell phone policy is violated, it is a referable offense.

Food & Drink Policy

Since we have a carpeted room, please only bring water to drink. Soda and coffee will not be allowed, and you'll be asked to dispose of it. Also, no food is allowed in the room at any time.

Leaving Class

When you need to leave the room, please be sure to get a signed, yellow Travel Document.

Additional Information

Students will workshop with their peers. This will require students to share their work with their peers. Never be afraid of sharing your work with the world. It's been waiting for you the whole time.

Office Hours

I'm available after school until 2:20pm, but I will always schedule an appointment with you for a different time if needed. Mornings, Mondays, and Wednesdays are the best times to find me. Parents, feel free to email me or call the school if you have any questions at all.

Course Expectation Agreement Sheet

STUDENT NAME: (print) _____

Please sign below after reviewing the course syllabus and classroom expectations sheets:

I have read the course syllabus and understand the outcomes of this course, the grading policy, the late work policy, the required materials, and also any other expectations of this course. I will do my part to ensure my success in this class.

I have read the academic integrity policy. I understand that if I am caught cheating in any way during this process, I will receive zeroes for part or all parts of the process, thus jeopardizing my grade in this class. I understand that any grade may be changed if I am found guilty of this infraction at a later date. I give my word that I will be honest during the year regarding my work.

I also understand what behavior is expected of me and the consequences of not meeting those expectations.

Student Signature

Date

I have read the course syllabus and understand the outcomes of this course, the grading policy, the late work policy, the required materials, and also any other expectations of this course.

I also understand what behavior is expected of my child and the consequences of not meeting those expectations. I will do my best to reinforce and support the instructor and his/her expectations.

Parent Signature

Date

Please have this sheet signed by NEXT CLASS.

This will be worth 10 points so that all of you can start out with an A in the class. I look forward to teaching you this year, and watching you improve both as a learner and as an individual thinker.