

ENGL115 : Introduction to Fiction: Creative Writing

General Information

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Course Code (CB01) :	ENGL115
Course Title (CB02) :	Introduction to Fiction: Creative Writing
Department:	ENGL
Proposal Start:	Fall 2025
TOP Code (CB03) :	(1501.00) English
CIP Code:	(23.0101) English Language and Literature, General.
SAM Code (CB09) :	Non-Occupational
Distance Education Approved:	No
Will this course be taught asynchronously?:	No
Course Control Number (CB00) :	CCC000212427
Curriculum Committee Approval Date:	10/25/2023
Board of Trustees Approval Date:	12/19/2023
Last Cyclical Review Date:	10/25/2023
Course Description and Course Note:	ENGL 115 introduces students to the craft, theory, and practice of writing fiction. How do writers craft short stories and novels? How do the structural, stylistic, and thematic elements, as well as identity and experience, inform narrative? In this class, students compose their own works of fiction in addition to reading, discussing, and writing about contemporary fictional works representing a diverse variety of writers with different backgrounds, approaches, and styles.
Justification:	Content Change
Academic Career:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Credit
Mode of Delivery:	No value
Author:	No value
Course Family:	No value

Academic Senate Discipline

Primary Discipline:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">English
Alternate Discipline:	No value
Alternate Discipline:	No value

Course Development

Basic Skill Status (CB08)

Course is not a basic skills course.

Allow Students to Gain Credit by Exam/Challenge

Course Special Class Status (CB13)

Course is not a special class.

Pre-Collegiate Level (CB21)

Not applicable.

Grading Basis

- Grade with Pass / No-Pass Option

Course Support Course Status (CB26)

Course is not a support course

General Education and C-ID

General Education Status (CB25)

Not Applicable

Transferability

Transferable to both UC and CSU

Transferability Status

Approved

CSU GE-Breadth Area	Area	Status	Approval Date	Comparable Course
C2-Humanities	Humanities: (Literature, Philosophy, Languages Other than English)	Approved	09/03/2019	No Comparable Course defined.

Units and Hours

Summary

Minimum Credit Units (CB07)	3
Maximum Credit Units (CB06)	3
Total Course In-Class (Contact) Hours	54
Total Course Out-of-Class Hours	108
Total Student Learning Hours	162

Credit / Non-Credit Options

Course Type (CB04)

Credit - Degree Applicable

Noncredit Course Category (CB22)

Credit Course.

Noncredit Special Characteristics

No Value

Course Classification Code (CB11)

Credit Course.

Funding Agency Category (CB23)

Not Applicable.

Cooperative Work Experience Education Status (CB10)

Variable Credit Course

Weekly Student Hours

	In Class	Out of Class
Lecture Hours	3	6
Laboratory Hours	0	0
Studio Hours	0	0

Course Student Hours

Course Duration (Weeks) 18

Hours per unit divisor 0

Course In-Class (Contact) Hours

Lecture 54

Laboratory 0

Studio 0

Total 54

Course Out-of-Class Hours

Lecture 108

Laboratory 0

Studio 0

Total 108

Time Commitment Notes for Students

No value

Units and Hours - Weekly Specialty Hours

Activity Name	Type	In Class	Out of Class
No Value	No Value	No Value	No Value

Pre-requisites, Co-requisites, Anti-requisites and Advisories

Advisory

ENGL103 - Creative Writing Workshop

Objectives

- Recognize and appreciate the elements of effective imaginative writing through examples studied in the class.
- Develop and apply effective concepts for creative pieces in the various creative forms.
- Synthesize critical commentary from the instructor and classmates in the process of revision.
- Produce a journal comprised of regular entries drawing from life experiences.
- Conceive and execute several fully developed, entirely original imaginative pieces.
- Evaluate the work of classmates and participate in the process of mutual criticism.

Entry Standards

Entry Standards

Description

No value

No value

Course Limitations

Cross Listed or Equivalent Course

Description

No value

No value

Specifications

Methods of Instruction

Methods of Instruction

Lecture

Methods of Instruction

Discussion

Methods of Instruction

Multimedia

Methods of Instruction

Collaborative Learning

Methods of Instruction

Field Activities (Trips)

Methods of Instruction

Guest Speakers

Methods of Instruction

Presentations

Out of Class Assignments

- Reading responses (e.g. discuss what language, images, metaphors, plot devices, etc. you found most surprising or memorable in the fiction pieces assigned for this week and explain why or how they were surprising)
- Writer's notebook; (responses that are kept for writer's own reference)
- Portfolios (e.g. a portfolio of student's writing, including a self-reflection on the approaches, success and insight gained on the pieces)
- Critiques (e.g. a written critique of a classmate's work)
- Field activities (e.g. attendance at and evaluation of a public literary reading of fiction, interview with an author or panel discussion)
- Writing exercises (e.g. write a narrative from another point-of-view; set a story thirty years in the future; start a story with one character privileged over another; write dialogue in a fictional language)

Methods of Evaluation

Rationale

Project/Portfolio	Instructor evaluation of student portfolio of work
Activity (answering journal prompt, group activity)	Peer review or critique of student work
Writing Assignment	Writing exercises in different forms of fiction
Writing Assignment	3-5 finished works of fiction

Textbook Rationale

Books by LaPlante, Dillard, Zissner, Johnston, and King are considered classic texts.

Textbooks

Author	Title	Publisher	Date	ISBN
Alice LaPlante	Method and Madness: The Making of a Story	Norton and Company	2008	978-0393928174
Annie Dillard	The Writing Life	Harper Perennial	2013	978-0060919887
William Zissner	On Writing Well	Harper Collins	2016	978-0060891541
Bret Anthony Johnston	Naming the World: And Other Exercises for the Creative Writer	Random House	2008	978-0812975482
Stephen King	On Writing: A Memoir of the Craft	Scribner	2010	978-1439156810
Janet Burroway	Writing Fiction, Tenth Edition: A Guide to Narrative Craft	University of Chicago Press	2019	978-0226616698
Michael Noll	A Writer's Field Guide to the Craft of Fiction	A Strange Object	2018	978-0998518411

Other Instructional Materials (i.e. OER, handouts)

No Value

Materials Fee

No value

Learning Outcomes and Objectives

Course Objectives

Recognize, analyze and evaluate various creative writing techniques in contemporary fiction genres, such as narrative, experimental, postmodern, formal, flash, and surreal.

Apply creative writing techniques to the invention and development of fiction.

Differentiate cultural, historical and political values around creative writing practices, theory and institutions.

Synthesize criticism from instructor and classmates in the process of revision.

Generate and complete finished drafts of original works of fiction.

Evaluate the work of classmates to develop editing and revising skills for creative writing.

SLOs

Analyze critical concepts in fiction such as realism, naturalism, minimalism, and fabulism.

Expected Outcome Performance: 70.0

ENGL
Creative Writing

Demonstrate creative and critical thinking as it applies to writing and reading.

Demonstrate increased knowledge the principles of Creative Writing.

ILOs
Core ILOs

Demonstrate depth of knowledge in a course, discipline, or vocation by applying practical knowledge, skills, abilities, theories, or methodologies to solve unique problems.

ENGL
English: Creative Writing A.A.
Degree Major

develop analytical and creative writing that demonstrates an understanding of literary concepts, genre, and ethical use of sources

Read critically in order to analyze literary works for themes and other literary elements.

Expected Outcome Performance: 70.0

ILOs
Core ILOs Analyze and solve problems using critical, logical, and creative thinking; ask questions, pursue a line of inquiry, and derive conclusions; cultivate creativity that leads to innovative ideas.

ENGL
Creative Writing Demonstrate creative and critical thinking as it applies to writing and reading.

Demonstrate increased knowledge the principles of Creative Writing.

ENGL
English: Creative Writing A.A.
Degree Major analyze and critically read a variety of texts and various forms of media from contemporary literature and the literary canon

Write original works of fiction that reflect consideration of voice, character, story, and historical and social contexts. Expected Outcome Performance: 70.0

ILOs
Core ILOs Analyze and solve problems using critical, logical, and creative thinking; ask questions, pursue a line of inquiry, and derive conclusions; cultivate creativity that leads to innovative ideas.

Communicate clearly, ethically, and creatively; listen actively and engage respectfully with others; consider situational, cultural, and personal contexts within or across multiple modes of communication.

ENGL
Creative Writing Demonstrate increased knowledge the principles of Creative Writing.

Demonstrate increased reading and writing comprehension of English.

ENGL
English: Creative Writing A.A.
Degree Major develop analytical and creative writing that demonstrates an understanding of literary concepts, genre, and ethical use of sources
produce work that is organized and written in a style suited for its purpose and audience

Additional SLO Information

Does this proposal include revisions that might improve student attainment of course learning outcomes?

No

Is this proposal submitted in response to learning outcomes assessment data?

No

If yes was selected in either of the above questions for learning outcomes, explain and attach evidence of discussions about learning outcomes.

No Value

SLO Evidence

No Value

Course Content

Lecture Content

Forms of Fiction (18 hours)

- Drama
- Comedy
- Horror/Sci-Fi/Fantasy
- Realism
- Romanticism

- Satire
- Tragedy
- Tragicomedy
- Fabulism
- Mythology

Craft of Fiction (18 hours)

- Plot
- Establishing Scenes
- Characterization
- Cliché, hyperbole, stereotypes, flowery prose
- Dialogue
- Description
- Exposition
- Sensory Details
- Point of view
- Voice and tone
- Style: word choice, sentence structure, conciseness
- Theme and purpose
- Authenticity (Realism)
- Summary
- Show vs. tell
- Theme and purpose
- Narrator vs. protagonist

The Writer, Society and Power (10 hours)

- Identity and power: what we write and how we read; writing about, for and as the "other"
- Diverse voices
- Where do aesthetic values come from?
- Creation of the literary canon
- Use of stereotypes in writing: hazards of, subverting or resisting stereotypes
- History of fiction forms
- Truth, facts and invention in fiction
- Literary theory

Workshop Guidelines and Practice (2 hours)

- Establishing common language for discussing student writing
- Collaboration on purpose of the workshop
- Limits and possibilities of the creative writing workshop
- Making space for all, but especially marginalized voices

Research Methods (4 hours)

- Authenticating characters, settings, plot, historical details
- Library databases
- Online research
- Field research: observation, participant-observation, field trips

Writing Process (2 hours)

- Strategies for invention
- Keeping a notebook
- Examples of writer's notebooks
- Writing schedules
- Writing exercises
- Revision

Total hours: 54

Additional Information

Is this course proposed for GCC Major or General Education Graduation requirement? If yes, indicate which requirement in the two areas provided below.

Yes

GCC Major Requirements

No Value

GCC General Education Graduation Requirements

Arts, Foreign Language, Literature, and Philosophy

Repeatability

Not Repeatable

Justification (if repeatable was chosen above)

No Value

Resources

Did you contact your departmental library liaison?

No

If yes, who is your departmental library liaison?

No Value

Did you contact the DEIA liaison?

No

Were there any DEIA changes made to this outline?

No

If yes, in what areas were these changes made:

No Value

Will any additional resources be needed for this course? (Click all that apply)

- No

If additional resources are needed, add a brief description and cost in the box provided.

No Value