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ENG 2000-001 Introduction to Creative Writing

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Eastern Illinois University

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ENG 2000 - 001
ENG 2000 - Introduction to Creative Writing
(Credits 3-0-3) (Graded A, B, C, N/C)
Spring 2022
11:00 am – 12:15 pm Tuesday/Thursday
Coleman Hall 3170
Final Exam Period is Tuesday, May 3, 2:45-4:45 p.m.

Instructor: Ann Hart
Coleman Hall 3552
Email: amhart@eiu.edu

Office Hours

In Person: 1-2:30 PM T/TH
Online on Zoom by appointment

COVID

When we are meeting in person, Masks must be worn at all times or following current EIU policy. If you choose to not wear a mask or to remove it, you will be asked to leave. To view the latest EIU COVID-19 related information and any policy updates, please visit <https://www.eiu.edu/covid/>. If EIU required a change to an online platform for class meetings, we will use Zoom though D2L. Also, drinks are fine but do not eat in class.

Course Description

This course will introduce students to reading for craft and writing creatively across poetry, fiction, nonfiction, and dramatic genres. Students will participate in workshops of their creative work and read extensively in each genre.

Learning Objectives

- ◇ Develop a consistent artistic practice
- ◇ Possess a basic understanding of the writer's crafting and the revision processes
- ◇ Possess a basic understanding of the generic characteristics of Creative Nonfiction, Poetry, Fiction, and Dramatic genres
- ◇ Possess an understanding of Workshop skills and processes
- ◇ Add to and develop your body of work

Books, Readings, and Materials

We will read historical and contemporary writers of influence and look at how they approach various elements of craft.

- ◇ *Imaginative Writing*, 4th edition, by Janet Burroway
- ◇ *Writing Down the Bones* by Natalie Goldberg

- ◇ Your Writing Journal
- ◇ (Lots of) Other handouts and readings

NOTE: Readings may be changed, updated, or removed as the need arises.

General Schedule – Subject to change as necessary

| Modules Topics | Module Craft Focus |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Module 1: Getting Started and Basic Course Information | Syllabus Getting to know each other Establishing a Writing Practice |
| Module 2: Creative Non-Fiction | Looking closely at Imagery, Conflict, and Metaphor Creative Essay Small Group Workshop |
| Module 3: Poetry | Looking closely at Voice, Form, and Word Choice 3 Poems Small Group Workshop |
| Module 4: Fiction | Looking closely at Character, Plot, and Place Short Story Small Group Workshop |
| Module 5: Drama | Looking closely at Dialog, Story, and Technical Elements Drama Scene Small Group Workshop |
| Module 6: Portfolio | Looking closely at presentation of work |
| Finals Week | In class Open Mic Tuesday, May 3, 2:45-4:45 p.m. Final Portfolio due |

Grading

- ◇ Writing Journal
- ◇ Workshops
- ◇ Participation
- ◇ Quizzes
- ◇ Creative Essay

Points

100
60
90
50
20

| | |
|------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| ◇ 3 Poems | 20 |
| ◇ Short Story | 20 |
| ◇ Drama Scene | 20 |
| ◇ Final Portfolio of Revisions with Artist Statement | 120 |

Writing Journal

Successful writers write, even when they do not feel like they have anything to say. On the first day of class I will provide you with a journal for daily writing. Be sure to put your (or my) contact information in it. We will do in class and out of class journaling, and you will be expected to write in it at least 5 days per week. Most journal entries will have instructions or prompts (for example describe something you see that is blue) and some will be free writes.

Workshopping

Workshopping is an opportunity to view your pieces through the lens of an audience, an audience that includes, most importantly, you. The goal of workshop is to help you think through your writings, so you will lead the workshopping of your pieces (don't worry I will give you tools for doing so effectively). We will do small group workshops of 3-5 people. Our workshop model will be based on Liz Lerman's *Critical Responses Process* and *The Anti-Racist Writing Workshop* by Felicia Rose Chavez.

Participation

Full in-class participation includes completing all written work including completing full drafts and revisions of the CNF, poetry, fiction and drama assignments, written and oral workshop comments, quizzes, in-class discussions, journal assignments, and other assignments as required.

Writing Portfolio

You will submit drafts of your pieces as we move through the semester and then revise them for the final portfolio. You can rewrite as many times as you like; I will give you ample feedback on each piece and encourage you to make appointments to see me about your writing progress. The portfolio will also contain a writers (or artist's) statement for at least two of your pieces.

Revision

Successful revisions will show that you attended to the questions of your workshop reviewers and have truly thought through what you want to accomplish with a piece of writing. Of course, also fixing any low order (grammar, punctuation, formatting, etc.) issues.

Extra Credit

Extra Credit will be available for participation in the English Studies Conference.

Plagiarism and Copyright

Plagiarism is using someone else's words, work, or ideas without providing proper acknowledgement. Eastern Illinois University considers plagiarism a serious offense under its

student conduct code, and the penalty can be as serious as expulsion from school. Turnitin, a Web-based plagiarism detection service, will be used in this class.

The EIU English Department's policy on plagiarism: "Any teacher who discovers an act of plagiarism—'The appropriation or imitation of the language, ideas, and/or thoughts of another author, and representation of them as one's original work' (Random House Dictionary)—has the right and the responsibility to impose upon the guilty student an appropriate penalty, up to and including immediate assignment of a grade of F for the course, and to report the incident to the Judicial Affairs Office."

Electronic Writing Portfolio

Students may submit essays from any class that meet the EWP standards, and we encourage submission from English 1001 or 1002. Submissions must be at least 750 words (excluding works cited), and may not be fiction, poetry, or drama. Nothing we write in this class will be eligible for the EWP.

Late and Make-up Work

All work should be turned in complete and on time. Late work will be accepted, but 10% of your earned grade will be deducted per day that an assignment is late. However, exceptions can be made in individual cases (such as Covid quarantine) but must be discussed with the instructor (Ann Hart) in advance. Most assignments that are not done in class, will be due by 11:59 on their due date.

Methods of Evaluation:

The grades for this class will be determined by points earned (1000 total points possible) and will be reported based on the standard grading scale. However, per IAI standards, a grade of C or higher is required for advancement to higher level English courses.

100-90%=A

89-80%=B

79-70%=C

69% or lower=NC

ENG 2000 Attendance Policy

Attendance is necessary to be successful in this class and poor attendance will hurt your grade. If you become ill or have to miss class for an extended period of time, please let me know so we can make a plan to help you stay successful in the class. Our class time is limited so students are expected to be in class on time for every class meeting and stay for the entire class time. If you miss two class sessions in a row, I will file an Alert through the Early Alert System.

EIU Attendance Policy

Students are expected to attend class meetings as scheduled. When an absence does occur, the student is responsible for the material covered during the absence. When possible, the student should notify the instructor in advance of an anticipated absence.

Instructors will grant make-up privileges (when make-up is possible) to students for properly verified absences due to illness, emergency, participation in an official University activity, or participation in volunteer emergency work ([110 ILCS 122/](#)); and such absences will not militate against students in classes in which attendance is used directly in determining final grades. It is the student's responsibility to initiate plans for make-up work and to complete it promptly. If in the instructor's judgment the duration or number of absences renders make-up unfeasible, the instructor should consult the Department Chairperson to determine an appropriate action. For complete policy details see <https://castle.eiu.edu/auditing/O43.php>.

Conduct

I expect all students to conduct themselves as thoughtful, considerate, mature adult learners. Any student who disrupts the class or behaves inappropriately will be asked to leave immediately and may be dropped from the course. Examples of disruptive or inappropriate behavior include (but are not limited to): offensive, rude, or angry language, comments, or actions; interrupting discussions or lectures; sleeping; eating; smoking, vaping, chewing tobacco; disregarding instructions; ringing or buzzing cell phones; habitual tardiness. Put all unnecessary electronic devices away, including air buds, ear buds, and whatever other devices that will be a distraction. Silence (or whatever) Fitbits, phones, Apple watches, etc. I will ask that they be put away if they are a distraction.

Academic Integrity

Students are expected to maintain principles of academic integrity and conduct as defined in EIU's Code of Conduct (<http://www.eiu.edu/judicial/studentconductcode.php>). Violations will be reported to the Office of Student Standards.

Students with Disabilities

If you are a student with a documented disability in need of accommodations to fully participate in this class, please contact the Office of Student Disability Services (OSDS). All accommodations must be approved through OSDS. Please stop by McAfee, Room 1210, or call 217-581-6583 to make an appointment.

The Student Success Center

Students who are having difficulty achieving their academic goals are encouraged to contact the Student Success Center (www.eiu.edu/~success) for assistance with time management, test taking, note taking, avoiding procrastination, setting goals, and other skills to support academic achievement. The Student Success Center provides individualized consultations. To make an appointment, call 217-581-6696, or go to McAfee Gym, Room 1301.

The Writing Center

"The Writing Center of Eastern Illinois University is a place where students can develop as writers and thinkers. We recognize that student writers come to the center with individual needs and individual writing processes, and we are committed to working with students from all disciplines, majors, and academic backgrounds at any stage of the writing process." I highly recommend you visit the Writing Center in the first three weeks of class with low stakes

assignment, so you are comfortable in the environment and familiar with their processes when you go in for a more challenging one. <https://www.eiu.edu/writing/index.php>.

Restrooms

The closest all-gender restroom to our class is on the 2nd floor of Coleman Hall, directly under the main English Dept. office. This restroom is newly designated as gender inclusive and has a lockable door and two stalls. Gendered restrooms are located on every floor in Coleman Hall. There is a map of gender-inclusive restrooms at EIU at <https://www.eiu.edu/lgbtqa/all-gender-restrooms.php>