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### ENG 2000-001: Introduction to Creative Writing

Ann Hart

*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)

Fall 2021: 11:00 am – 12:15 pm Tuesday/Thursday  
Coleman Hall 3140

Instructor: Ann Hart

Coleman Hall 3552

Email: [amhart@eiu.edu](mailto:amhart@eiu.edu)

Office Hours

In Person: 9:30-10:30 AM T/TH

Online on Zoom 7-8 PM Wednesday

**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.

**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 writing 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**

- ◇ Most of the model readings we will use across all genres will be chosen by the students in this class. We will read the contemporary, living writers who are influencing your writing and look at how they approach various elements of craft.
- ◇ Imaginative Writing, 4th edition, by Janet Burroway
- ◇ Other handouts and readings as required

- ◇ Something to write on (A notebook)
- ◇ Something to write with

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

**General Schedule – Subject to change as necessary**

Weeks	Modules Topics	Module Craft Focus
Week 1& 2 Aug 23 -31	<b>Module 1: Getting Started and Basic Course Information</b>	Syllabus All About Me Quiz Establishing a Writing Practice Learning to Workshop Revision
Weeks 3-5 Sept 1-Sept. 26	<b>Module 2: Creative Non-Fiction</b>	Looking closely at Voice, Conflict, and Metaphor Small Group Workshop Sept 23
Weeks 6-8 Sept. 27- Oct. 17	<b>Module 3: Poetry</b>	Looking closely at Imagery, Form, and Word Choice Small Group Workshop Oct 14
Week 9-11 Oct 18-Nov. 7	<b>Module 4: Fiction</b>	Looking closely at Character, Plot, and Place Small Group Workshop Nov. 4
Week 12-13 Nov. 8-21	<b>Module 5: Drama</b>	Looking closely at Dialog, Story, and Technical Elements Small Group Workshop Nov. 18
	<b>Thanksgiving Break Nov. 22-26</b>	
Week 14	<b>Module 6: Workshops</b>	<b>All Class Workshops</b>
Week 15		<b>All Class Workshops</b>
Week 16	<b>Finals Week</b>	<b>Final Portfolio due</b>

**Grading**

◇ Writing Journal (in and out of class)	20%
◇ Workshops and Participation	30%
◇ Poem(s)	5%
◇ Drama Scene	5%
◇ Short Story	5%
◇ Creative Essay	5%
◇ Final Portfolio of Revisions with Artist Statement	30%

**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.

**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 two sizes of workshopping: the entire class and small groups of 3-5. 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 Pre-Workshop discussions with me, written and oral workshop comments, quizzes, in-class discussions

**Extra Credit**

Extra Credit may be available for participation in approved out-of-class literary events.

**Writing Journal**

Successful writers write, even when they do not feel like they have anything to say. You will be expected to keep a daily writing journal. We will do in class journaling, and you will be expected to write on our not meeting days for a total of at least 6 days per week. Some journal entries will have instructions or prompts (for example describe something you see that is blue or write outside) and some will be free writes.

**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 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. However, exceptions can be made in individual cases 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**

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. If you miss 4 classes in the semester your final grade in the class will drop by 1 letter grade. After 4 missed classes I will assume you are dropping the class.

### **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/043.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](http://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>.