



Catalog Entry

Introduction to Creative Writing (3-0) Study and practice of essential techniques of creative writing in at least two genres. This course satisfies your liberal arts block elective or functions as a gateway course along with CRW 3364 for majors and minors.

Course Description

In order to respond to the call to write creatively, writers must learn the basic elements that inform his/her/their chosen medium—poetry or fiction—and read the work of authors that have mastered their craft. This course spearheads the knowledge that will be gradually acquired by creative writing majors, assist non-majors in their development of creative writing techniques, and provide every student, regardless of academic path, with a more comprehensive appreciation of creative work as readers of poetry and fiction throughout their lifetime.

Course Delivery

The course will be delivered online using Blackboard, Blackboard Collaborate and Zoom with synchronous (live) and asynchronous (recorded) components. Synchronous components include a Meet-and-Greet session, live lectures using Zoom, and weekly virtual office hours using Blackboard Collaborate. Attendance to the live lectures is optional, and live lectures will be recorded so students can access these at a later time. Asynchronous components include recorded lectures that can be accessed whenever the student chooses. This is not a self-paced class. The course is organized by weeks with corresponding assignments and deadlines. The course will feature lecture, discussion, and workshop components.

Course Outcomes

Throughout this course, students will:

- Recognize literary devices used in poetry and fiction, and apply them to their own work.
- Provide and receive professional criticism of peers' poetry or short story submissions.
- Produce a final portfolio with a critical preface and revised versions of a poem and short story.

Academic Integrity: An act of plagiarism (or other form of academic dishonesty) will result in an 'F' for the course, and may include other University disciplinary action, such as suspension or expulsion. You should become familiar with the ethical guidelines for conduct spelled out in the [Student Affairs](#) section of the [Handbook for Operating Procedures](#). Additionally, please be aware that you may not submit work for this class that was produced for another class. You must produce your own original work in this class and appropriately identify and portion of your work which is collaborative with others, borrowed from others, or which is your own work from other contexts. Always cite your information. If you have doubts as to whether or not you are using your own or others' work legally and ethically, ask me or stop by the UTEP Writing Center. Follow this primary principle: Be upfront and honest.

ADA: The Americans with Disabilities Act requires that reasonable accommodations be provided for students with physical, sensory, cognitive, systemic, learning, and psychiatric disabilities. If you suspect that you have a disability and need accommodation, please contact The Center for Accommodations & Support Services (CASS) at (915)747-5148 or at cass@utep.edu. The CASS office is located in Room 106, Union East. Students are responsible for presenting the instructor with any CASS accommodation letters and instructions.

Military Student Success Center: If you are a military student (veteran, dependent, active), consider visiting the Military Success Center at Library Room 205 or online at <https://www.utep.edu/student-affairs/mssc/>. Please inform me if you need special accommodations. If you make me aware of a complication, I will work to assist you or put you in contact with university staff who are trained to assist you.

Calendar

This calendar is subject to change. I will notify you about changes one week in advance, except for family or health emergencies that affect my ability to communicate with you promptly. Please check Blackboard and your email often.

Optional synchronous (live) lectures are marked with an asterisk* (relevant live lectures will be recorded).

Reading key: **RJ**=Reading Journal; **ICA**=In-Class Assignment.

Week 1: 8/24-8/30

Introductions, Syllabus and Blackboard

Activities	Read Syllabus Explore Blackboard Join CRW 3362's Meet and Greet* (Tues 8/25 @ 12-1pm) *=Attendance Optional
Due by Sun 8/30 @ 11:59 pm	Introduction post and response Syllabus Scavenger Hunt ICA 1: Go to Blackboard>Weeks> Week 1> ICA 1. For the following ICAs go to the corresponding week.

Week 2: 8/31-9/6

Why...poetry? & What is an "awful" poem?

<p>Activities</p>	<p>Read "How to Read a Poem" (Edward Hirsch) "Awful Poems" (Steve Kowitz) "Introduction to Poetry" (Billy Collins)</p> <p>Join Live Lecture * (Tue 9/1 @ 12-1:20pm): Go to Blackboard> Live Lectures *=Attendance Optional</p>
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<p>Due by Sun 9/6 @ 11:59 pm</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o RJ1: Go to Blackboard> Weeks>Week 2> RJ1 &RJ1 Response for questions. For the following RJs go to the corresponding week. o RJ 1 Response: Post a reply to one classmate; two sentences. minimum. o ICA 2
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Week 3: 9/7-9/13

What is imagery in poetry? & What does it take to write "fresh" metaphors and similes?

<p>Activities</p>	<p>Read "Images" (Kim Addonizio and Dorianne Laux) "Gate C-22" (Ellen Bass) "Negative" (Kevin Young) "Dim Lady" (Haryette Mullen)</p> <p>Join Live Lecture* (Tue 9/8 @ 12-1:20pm)</p>
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<p>Due by Sun 9/13 @ 11:59 pm</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o RJ 2 o RJ 2 Response o ICA 3
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Week 4: 9/14-9/20

How is music created in free verse poems?

<p>Activities</p>	<p>Read Prosody handout "Line Breaks" (Steve Kowitz) "Paramour" (Rosa Alcalá) "The Sawgrass Women Make Me Nervous" (Lauren Berry) "Rhumba" (Rita Dove)</p> <p>Join Live Lecture* (Tue 9/15 @ 12-1:20pm)</p>
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<p>Due by Sun 9/20 @ 11:59 pm</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o RJ 3 o RJ 3 Response <p>No ICA Due</p>
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Week 5: 9/21-9/27

How is music created in free verse poems? CONT'D

<p>Activities</p>	<p>Read "Shadi" (Fatima Asghar) "Never After" (Evie Shockley)</p> <p>Watch Recorded Lecture</p>
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<p>Due by Sun 9/27 @</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o ICA 4
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Week 10: 10/26-11/1	
How does literary dialogue differ from daily, human dialogue? CONT'D	
Activities	Read "Fat" and "Popular Mechanics" (Raymond Carver) Watch Recorded Lecture
Course Drop Deadline: Friday, October 30	
Due by Sun 11/1 @ 11:59 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ ICA 7 ○ Extra Credit RJ
Week 11: 11/2-11/8	
Why does it matter "who" tells a story and from "what distance?"	
Activities	Read "All at One Point" (Italo Calvino) "Hills Like White Elephants" (Ernest Hemingway) "Blackberries" (Leslie Norris) "Girl" (Jamaica Kincaid) Watch Live Lecture* (Tue 11/3 @ 12-1:20 pm) *SUBJECT TO CHANGE TO RECORDED LECTURE
Due by Sun 11/8 @ 11:59 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ RJ 7 ○ RJ 7 Response ○ ICA 8
Week 12: 11/9-11/15	
Isn't setting just background? & Why so many flashbacks?!	
Activities	Read "The Flowers" (Alice Walker) "Currents" (Hannah Bottomy Voskuil) Watch Recorded Lecture
Due by Sun 11/15 @ 11:59 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ RJ 8 ○ RJ 8 Response ○ ICA 9
Week 13: 11/16-11/22	
What is suspension of disbelief and verisimilitude? What is an unreliable narrator?	
Activities	Read "Corzo" (Brenna Gomez) "The School" (Donald Barthelme) Join Live Lecture* (Tue 11/17 @ 12-1:20pm)
Due by Sun 11/22 @ 11:59 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ RJ 9 ○ Short story first draft for Small Group Fiction Workshop No RJ Response Due
Week 14: 11/23-11/29	
Thanksgiving	

Enjoy your break!

Week 15: 11/30-12/6

Small Group Workshop (Fiction) & Revision

Activities	Read 2 short stories from the classmates in your small group "And Furthermore, Part I: Door Shut, Door Open" (Stephen King) Watch Recorded Lecture
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Due by Fri 12/4 @ 11:59 pm **Feedback for 2 short stories**

Due by Sun 12/6 @ 11:59 pm **ICA 10**

Week 16: 12/7-12/11

Finals Week

Due by Fri 12/11 @ 11:59 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Final Portfolio○ Virtual Poetry Factory○ Extra Credit ICA
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Congratulations 😊
You made it this far!



For Syllabus Scavenger Hunt Extra Credit Question due Fri 8/30 by 11:59 pm

What did one balloon say to another balloon when flying in the desert?
Watch out for the cac-tussss!