

English 236: Fall Quarter 2016
Creative Writing
Pierce College

ENGL 236

Location: OLY 308

MTWRF: 10:00-10:50 AM

April 4th-June 17th

Professor: Heather Frankland, M.F.A., M.P.H.

Email: Hfrankland@pierce.ctc.edu

Office Hours: Monday- Thursday 1-2:15 PM

And by appointment

Office: OLY 207

Course Description:

Creative writing is not only about seeing the world differently but getting your readers to step in your vision. As readers, we will practice discussing the texts and our classmates' work. Each student will explore the questions: What is effective writing? What moves me? How did the authors create this effect? By exploring these questions, students will gain an idea of their personal aesthetic as well as challenge that aesthetic. As writers, not only will students write poetry, short fiction, and playwriting but they will be completing assigned artist sketches, writing prompts, and a revision of one of the three forms. Students will hone their skills as critical readers, thinkers, and writers through the readings and written assignments. Although writing is often viewed as an intimate activity one does alone, it is important to recognize and support our writing community. Due to this, you will be required to submit two pieces to SLAM: One will be a poem from our Asian poetry segment and the other creative piece is to be determined by you.

Upon successful completion of the course, you will be able to:

- Identify and employ structure, form, and content in fiction, poetry, and plays.
- Analyze and utilize writing techniques including deviations in grammar, mechanics, syntax, and organization.
- Identify and employ theme in fiction, poetry, and plays
- Identify and utilize dialogue and dialect in fiction, poetry, and plays.
- Analyze and employ the use of persona, character, and point of view in fiction, poetry, and plays.
- Identify and develop voice in individual writing.
- Recognize and utilize various genres and forms of fiction, poetry, and plays.
- Identify and employ description, images and sound in fiction, poetry, and plays.
- Evaluate fiction, poetry, and plays for literary quality.
- Express specific criteria for evaluations of quality.
- Explain process of submitting fiction to journals.

Text and Materials:

Required:

1. **Word of Mouth Ed. by Catherine Bowman**
2. **Sudden Fiction International Ed. by Robert Shapard and James Thomas**
3. **Additional handouts/readings** as indicated by the professor.
4. **Folder for your in-class journal selections**
5. **Reliable access to internet and flash drive**

Course Policies:

- **Attendance:** You are allowed **two** absences that won't impact your attendance grade. *However, if there is a quiz that day or a debate or an in-class essay, your regular grade will be impacted. For attendance, consider them your get out jail free cards. Although you can't trade them (as it is in Monopoly) I would recommend saving them for when you truly need them like when you are sick.*



The detailed attendance policy is below:

3 absences: 45 points = A- for 5% of final grade

4 absences: 40 points = B- for 5% of final grade

5 absences: 30 points = C- for 5% of final grade

6 absences: 20 points = D- for 5% of final grade

7 absences: 10 points = F for 5% of final grade

Keep in mind if you miss class, it is your responsibility to turn in your work at or before the assignment is due as well as find out what material was covered in class. Excessive incidents of tardiness (either being very late to class or repeatedly being late to class) will be

counted as absences. Three to four times arriving tardy will result in an absence for the class. Leaving early before class is dismissed will count as an absence. If you arrive over 20 minutes late, you are missing half of class. This will be reflected in your attendance as well. Be respectful with your attendance and as always, keep your professor in touch with your situation.

- **Withdrawal:** You are responsible for initiating the appropriate paperwork by the date Pierce College specifies. Please check with your advisor for details.
- **Academic Integrity:** Plagiarism and other acts of academic dishonesty **will result in failing the assignment** and can result in failing the course. Plagiarism and academic dishonesty include using another's work as your own (intentional) or not properly citing sources in your paper (unintentional) or using a paper written for a previous class (academic dishonesty). When in doubt, cite.
- **Cell Phones & Lap-tops:** All phones will be turned off or on vibrator. No calls, texts, Facebook messaging will be allowed during class time, by anyone. ***Points will be deducted from those who do not comply. Specifically, your participation points will be marked as a zero for that day.*** If there is any reason you need access to your phone during the class time, such as if your child is sick or you need to access handouts during group work, then you need to discuss it with the professor prior to class.

Lap-tops are not allowed in the class.

- **Students with Disabilities:** Your experience in this class is important to me, and it is the policy and practice of Pierce College to create inclusive and accessible learning environments consistent with federal and state law. If you experience barriers based on disability, please seek a meeting with the Access and Disability Services (ADS) manager to discuss and address them. If you have already established accommodations with the ADS manager, please bring your approved accommodations (green sheet) to me at your earliest convenience so we can discuss your needs in this course.

ADS offers resources and coordinates reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities. Reasonable accommodations are established through an interactive process between you and the ADS manager, and I am available to help facilitate them in this class. If you have not yet established services through ADS, but have a temporary or permanent disability that requires accommodations (this can include but not be limited to; mental health, attention-related, learning, vision, hearing, physical or health impacts), you are encouraged to contact ADS at 253-964-6526 (Fort Steilacoom) or 253-840-8335 (Puyallup)

- **Respecting Others:** I do not tolerate the use of language or behavior that discriminates against any individual's gender, race, class, ethnicity, disability, religion, or sexual orientation. In addition, students in this class have sacrificed their time, energy, and money in order to take this class, and activities that disrupt class are disrespectful to the sacrifices others have made. Likewise, continuously showing up unprepared for class is disruptive to the class and your classmates. I hold the classroom and our time together in

the highest regard; I expect you to do the same.

During the class discussions, you will be exposed to different opinions, so it is important respect others' ideas, comments, and input. ***If you are continuously disruptive in class and disrespectful of our time in class, I reserve the right to excuse you from class and count it as an absence.***

- **Late Work:** Projects and assignments are due on the due dates at the beginning of class; ***absence from class is not an allowance for late work. You will be allowed to turn one assignment (excepting your revised draft) one class period late without having points deducted. All other late work will not be accepted. The form (or ticket) attached to the syllabus will need to be filled out to accept the late work. This policy is firm.***

- **Extra Credit:** You can earn up to 10 points extra credit. Your professor will inform you of extra credit opportunities throughout the quarter.

- **Assignments:**

Written assignments must be typed, double-spaced, in 12-point Times New Roman font. All assignments must include **page numbers** and be **stapled** together.

Only the in-class journal and informal writing assignments as identified by the professor will be accepted handwritten.

Detailed list:

Participation: Participation includes both a written element: *selected in-class journal entries (50 points)*, selected in-class group and individual assignments as collected by your professor; and a spoken element: completing the readings and being prepared to discuss them **(50 points)**. In addition, if you are not being an active learner and/or being disruptive (using your cell phone in class, leaving early, and being disrespectful to your classmates, your instructor, and the classroom environment), you will see it reflected in this grade. If you aren't regularly attending class, your participation will be affected. **(100 points total)**

Reading/lecture quizzes: You will have *four* quizzes this quarter based on the material that you are reading for class and information delivered in the lecture and classroom discussions. The quizzes cannot be made up. **(100 points)**

Assignments and Points Short List with Tentative Dates:

Assignment	Week Due	Point Value
Participation (In-class journal, selected individual and group in-class writing activities, discussions, being prepared for class, etc.)	Various	100 points
Poetry Sample	Week 2	50 points
Close Reading Practices	Week 2; 4; 7	75 points
Banned Book Project	TBD	50 points
Artist Sketches	Week 2; 5; 8	75 points
Asian Poetry Packet	Week 3-4	100 points
Short Fiction Packet	Week 5-7	150 points
Play	Week 8-9	150 points
Revised draft	Week 9-11	200 points
Attendance		50 points

Grade Scale:

- 900-1000 90-100%=3.5-4.0=A
- 800-890 80-89% = 2.5-3.4=B
- 700-790 70-79% = 1.5-2.4=C
- 600-690 60-69% = 0.7-1.4=D
- Less than 600 < 60% = 0.0 =F

A 2.0, 75%, is a passing grade for this class

Ticket for 1 Late Assignment Accepted One Class Period Late
(excepting those specified in the syllabus)
To be turned in and filled out at late assignment request

Your name: _____

The assignment: _____

Original due date: _____

Now due: _____

Your signature: _____

Professor's signature: _____

Your receipt

_____ (your name) assignment _____ (title of
assignment) is accepted as the 1 late assignment allowed on
_____ (date).

_____ (Professor's signature)