

**JACKSONVILLE COLLEGE
CREATIVE WRITING I COURSE SYLLABUS**

Instructor Contact Information

Instructor: Dr. Jan T. Modisette
Email: jmodisette@jacksonville-college.edu
Office hours: By appointment

Course Information

Course Number: ENGL 2307
Course Name: Creative Writing I

An elective writing course that focuses on developing higher level thinking and writing skills through imagination using examples from classic and modern short stories, poems, fairy tales, fiction, nonfiction, and novels. Students learn to express thoughts, feelings, and emotions through participation in activities designed to incorporate both traditional and modern techniques integrating technology and writing in the new media using digital images. Course prerequisite is English 1301. The elective course does not substitute for any required English course but meets the requirement for Humanities.

Student Learning Objectives/Outcomes:

- Demonstrate skills incorporating creative writing techniques
- Demonstrate ability to create original works in writing
- Demonstrate skills in use of technology in writing & creating a website
- Demonstrate techniques using digital images in writing
- Create quality works publication ready
- Produce a portfolio following specific guidelines provided by instructor

Upon completion of this course, the student will have gained skills and competencies in the course subject matter, reading, writing, speaking, critical thinking, teamwork, and in technology.

Course Philosophy:

The instructor will make specific efforts toward integration of Christian faith within the teaching/learning process by encouraging students to read Bible stories for reading practice, by including scripture in assignments to develop critical thinking skills, and by creating an atmosphere whereby students may freely express their Christian faith.

Grading Policy:

Grades are determined by a number of factors: daily grades, projects, exam, participation, and competency demonstrated through completed assignments.

Daily Grades=10%; Projects (4) = 15% each; Portfolio = 10%; Final Exam = 20%.

Assignment Guidelines: Daily grades, each of the four projects (Observation Day, Short Story, Poetry, and Experimental Writing), the portfolio, and the exam, will reflect the student's individual imagination and ability to apply skills learned in study and practice.

Portfolio: The portfolio will contain the student's original creative writing submitted for all four projects.

- Each project will have a 150-word reflection paragraph to introduce the project. The reflection states (a) why you chose the subject, (b) what you learned from the project, and (c) how you will use what you learned
- Students will create an audio/visual using the projects and reflections.

Course & Instructor Policies:

The College has adopted detection Software (*Turnitin*) which will be run against papers submitted to reduce the likelihood of plagiarism. Plagiarism (copying work of others) will result in a grade of “F” and possible suspension.

Communication and Support:

This course is supplemented using MOODLE, the Learning Management System used by Jacksonville College and Turnitin.com to submit major assignments. Other resources are available through the College library website www.jacksonville-college.edu.

Disabilities:

If a student has a disability that qualifies under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and requires accommodations, he/she should contact the Academic Dean for information on appropriate policies and procedures. Disabilities covered by ADA may include learning, psychiatric, physical disabilities, or chronic health disorders. Students can contact the Academic Dean if they are not certain whether a medical condition/disability qualifies. The Academic Dean’s office is located in the northeast corner of the Meadows Building. The phone number is 903-586-2518.

Required Textbooks and Materials:

- ★ *In A Field of Words: A Creative Writing Text (FIELD)* by Sybil Estess & Janet McCann. Upper Saddle River: Pearson Education, Inc., 2003. ISBN 0-13-085035-7.
- ★ Computer, word processor, thesaurus, and dictionary

Quick Look at Due Dates for Projects & Journals (Dates Posted on Turnitin.com)

WEEK 1—Project 1: Observation Day & Philippians 1

WEEK 2—Project 2: Short Story & Philippians 2

WEEK 3—Project 3: Poetry & Philippians 3

WEEK 4—Project 4: Experimental Writing & Philippians 4

FINAL EXAM—Portfolio & Presentation

Tentative Weekly Assignments (Due Dates Posted on Turnitin.com)

- I. Week 1—
- 1) Open Moodle to Read & Study the Course Introduction
 - 2) Study “Steps to Reading and Writing” with the sample MLA heading (required for all assignments)
 - 3) Hard copy “Audio/Visual Presentation Requirements (for Final Exam to be assigned)
 - 4) Hard copy the Syllabus with assignments (backup for Internet connection failures)
 - 5) Read Chapter 1, *In a Field of Words* textbook
 - 6) Do Exercise #1, page 12 (set up journal as a document with MLA format to post each week on Turnitin.com).
 - Assignment—Create a document with an MLA heading and page numbers (see example MLA format under “Steps to Reading and Writing” posted on Moodle. Repeat each week for submitting assignments.
 - Title of Journal: “Interpretation of Philippians 1” (first week)
 - Body of Journal: Create a separate document each week (Philippians 1, Philippians 2, Philippians 3, Philippians 4) with a summary and interpretation for each chapter each week.
- A. **Philippians 1**—Write a 150-word summary of Philippians 1, including your personal experiences and/or impressions of Paul’s letter to the Philippians (post on Turnitin.com)
- B. **Project 1:** “Observation Day” assignment on Moodle (post on Turnitin.com)
- II. Week 2—
- 1) Open Moodle to “Fiction: Chapter 2”
 - 2) View “Elements of the Short Story”
 - 3) Read & Study Chapter 2, *In a Field of Words* textbook
- A. **Philippians 2**—Write a 150-word summary of Philippians 2, including your personal experiences and/or impressions of Paul’s letter to the Philippians (post on Turnitin.com)
- B. **Daily Work 2**—Do each one of the following exercises on one document (post on Turnitin.com “Daily Work”). Use complete sentences.
- Plot—p. 36 # 1
 - Setting—p. 49 #7
 - Dialogue—p.58-59 “Practice in Writing Dialogue” (choose 1 to write)
 - Characterization—p 67 #3
 - Point of View—p. 73 #4
- C. **Project 2:** Short Story (post on Turnitin.com)
1. Write an original short story of 3-5 pages (double-spaced), using MLA format. (include all elements of plot, setting, dialogue, characterization, point of view)
 2. Read Chapter 5: Revising, pp. 200-205.
 3. Use the rubric on page 205 to revise your story before submitting to Turnitin.com.

- III. Week 3—
- 1) Open Moodle to “Poetry: Chapter 4
 - 2) View “Introduction to Poetry,” “Form, Rhythm, Meter, and Rhyme,” and “Literary Elements Rap”
 - 3) Read & Study Chapter 4, *In a Field of Words* textbook
- A. **Philippians 3**—Write a 150-word summary of Philippians 3, including your personal experiences and/or impressions of Paul’s letter to the Philippians (post on Turnitin.com)
- B. **Daily Work 3**—Do the following exercises as one document and post on Turnitin.com “Daily Work.” Use complete sentences.
- Image & Thought—p. 101 #4
 - Details—p. 108 #5
 - Poetic Devices—pp. 122-123 (choose one from #1-6)
 - Lyric and Narrative Poetry—pp.123-131 (Explain the difference between lyric and narrative poetry)
 - Meter—p. 150-153 #1-8
- C. **Project 3: Poetry**—Choose point 1. or 2. (post on Turnitin.com):
1. Exercises 3 & 4 (sestina) p. 165
 2. Exercise 1 (villanelle) p. 169
 3. Read Chapter 5, pp.206-210
 4. Use the rubrics on pp. 208-210 to revise poem before submitting it to Turnitin.com
 5. Search the Internet for poetry contests:
Enter your Project 3 in one contest.
Attach proof of contest entry to Project 3 before submitting it on Turnitin.com. (you may choose more than one contest.)
- IV. Week 4—
- 1) Read Chapter 6: Experimental Writing
- A. **Daily Work 4**—Define (not just synonyms) the following terms: parody, pastiche, found poems, performance poetry, and the sequence.
Use complete sentences & post under “Daily Work” on Turnitin.com.
- B. **Philippians 4**: Write a 150-word summary of Philippians 4, including your personal experiences and/or impressions of Paul’s letter to the Philippians (post on Turnitin.com)
- C. **Project 4**: Using the Bible book of Philippians, write a one-page experimental poem and include an interpretation. (post on Turnitin.com)
- V. Final Exam—
- A. Exam will be posted on Moodle