

SYLLABUS
Texas A&M International University
College of Arts and Sciences
Department of Humanities
Introduction to Creative Writing: ENGL 2307-Section #
Time and Place of Class
Fall/Spring Semester 2014

Dr. Suzette Bishop
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Textbooks:

Required:

Working Words: The Process of Creative Writing by Wendy Bishop, Mayfield Publishing Company, 1-55934-076-2
In a Field of Words: A Creative Writing Text by Sybil Estess and Janet McCann, Prentice Hall, First Edition, 2002, 0-13-085035-7
An Anthology for Creative Writers: A Garden of Forking Paths, Beth Anstandig and Eric Killough, Eds., Pearson/Prentice Hall, First Edition, 2007, 0-13-113501-5
Xeroxes of readings on reserve and on ANGEL

Recommended:

The Longman Journal for Creative Writing by Sibyl Johnston, Pearson Education, Inc., 2002, ISBN 0-321-09540-5 (should come packaged free with Pearson textbook)
Dancing in the Dragon's Den: Rekindling the Creative Fire in Your Shadow by Rosanne Bane, Nicolas-Hays, Inc., 0-89254-047-8. This book will re-unite you with your creative self and contains wonderful exercises that will engage and nurture your creativity and imagination.

Course Description:

English 2307 will be structured as an introductory-level writing workshop, and the primary focus of this class will be on the students' own poetry, short fiction, and creative nonfiction writing. Students will submit writing to classmates and the professor for constructive feedback. Reading assignments will be given to discuss or review in class as models for assignments or as important background instruction on the writing process, genres covered, and writing assignments.

English Program Outcome:

Graduates will be able to produce a portfolio of selected writings culled from their coursework in English that demonstrates writing effectiveness.

Student Learning Outcomes:

1. Students successfully completing Introduction to Creative Writing will demonstrate knowledge of and competence in the use of literary elements, techniques, form, and voice in fiction, poetry, and nonfiction through weekly writing assignments, revisions, and in-class writing exercises and through the final exam and readings.
2. Successful students will give and receive constructive feedback on each others' writing during workshop discussions, gaining an understanding of this process as an essential part of the revision process and the process of communicating effectively with an audience/reader.
3. Successful students will read sample readings in creative and critical ways in order to learn from other writers about strategies and techniques that are useful for their own writing and development as writers, articulating what they are learning through notetaking while reading, participating during class discussions and group work, and taking the final exam.

Core-Curriculum Learning Outcomes for Creative Arts:

1. Critical Thinking Skills: includes creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information. (SLOs #1, 2, 3)
2. Communication Skills: includes effective written, oral, and visual communication. (SLOs #1, 2, 3)
3. Teamwork: includes the ability to consider different points of view and work effectively with others to support a shared purpose or goal. (SLOs #2, 3)
4. Social Responsibility: includes intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities. (SLOs #1, 3)

Assignments:

Reading Assignments

- Portfolio: includes weekly writing assignments (10 total), in-class writing exercises, at least 5 revisions of weekly assignments
- Final Exam: giving a reading of your work and a reflective statement
- Participation: small-group workshop, full-class and small-group discussion of readings, group work

Grading

- Participation 25%
- Portfolio 60%
- Final Exam 15%