

**NEW RIVER COMMUNITY COLLEGE
DUBLIN, VIRGINIA**

COURSE PLAN

Course Number and Title: English 211 – Creative Writing

Prepared by: English Faculty Spring, 2016
(Date)

Approved by: _____ Spring, 2016
(Dean) (Date)

I. Course Description

Introduces the student to the fundamentals of writing imaginatively. Students write in forms to be selected from poetry, fiction, drama, and essays. Prerequisite: ENG 112 or divisional approval. Lecture 3 hours per week.

II. Introduction

The major objective of this course is to teach the student to produce creative writing works in each genre which coherently develop a well-defined central theme.

A word processing course is strongly recommended.

III. Student Learning Outcomes

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

- Identify, recognize and utilize literary devices
- Identify, recognize and utilize imaginative technique (Image, Voice, Character, Setting and Story.)
- Develop proficiency in Development and Revision of creative work.
- Identify the elements of the art of the Personal Essay and produce a creative essay.
- Implement the elements of the Short Story technique and produce one short story.
- Discover the types and forms of Poetry and produce a poem.
- Research biographical information of an author; produce a stylistic representation of that person's work, and a biography of the author.
- Write, using Standard English and colloquial language where necessary for effect.

IV. Instructional Methods

- Lectures
- Peer evaluation and group discussion
- Blackboard

V. Instructional Materials

- Textbook: “Writing Fiction: The Practical Guide,” Gotham Writers’ Workshop, 2003.
- Textbook: “In Fact: The Best of Creative Non-fiction,” Lee Gutkind, Annie Dillard, 2004.
- Various Instructor Handouts
- Blackboard

VI. Course Content

- Introducing the creative writing process for written work
- Reading and exploring literary examples of creative genres in poetry, drama, non-fiction and fiction
- Introducing concepts and use of literary techniques, including voice, character, plot, tone, and point of view, scene, summary, pacing, and structure.
- Journal writing
- Prewriting techniques
- Outlining and rough draft creation
- Peer review process
- Extensive revision
- Produce finished works in poetry, fiction and non-fiction.

VII. Evaluation

Personal Essay (1000 words)	20%
Poem	10%
Two Short Stories or novel chapters	50%
Participation	20%

The following grading scale will be used:

- A = 90 - 100
- B = 80 - 89
- C = 70 - 79
- D = 60 - 69
- F = 0 - 59

VIII. Attendance

Regular attendance at classes is required. When absence from a class becomes necessary, it is the responsibility of the student to inform the instructor prior to the absence whenever possible. The student is responsible for the subsequent completion of all study missed during an absence. Any instruction missed and not subsequently completed will necessarily affect the grade of the student regardless of the reason for the absence.

NOTE: Evaluation and attendance policies will vary according to individual instructors. These policies will be distributed in each class at the beginning of the semester.

IX. Cheating Policy

Any student found cheating on an assignment will receive a grade of zero for that assignment with no opportunity to make it up. Additional disciplinary measures may be taken as outlined in the NRCC Student Handbook. Cheating includes:

1. Giving or receiving information pertaining to tests; and
2. Plagiarizing, which is defined as taking and using as one's own the writing or ideas of another. (Definition adapted from the American Heritage Dictionary.)

X. Withdrawal Policy

Student Initiated Withdrawal Policy

A student may drop or withdraw from a class without academic penalty during the first 60 percent of a session. For purposes of enrollment reporting, the following procedures apply:

- a. If a student withdraws from a class prior to the termination of the add/drop period for the session, the student will be removed from the class roll and no grade will be awarded.
- b. After the add/drop period, but prior to completion of 60 percent of a session, a student who withdraws from a class will be assigned a grade of "W." A grade of "W" implies that the student was making satisfactory progress in the class at the time of withdrawal, that the withdrawal was officially made before the deadline published in the college calendar, or that the student was administratively transferred to a different program.
- c. After that time, if a student withdraws from a class, a grade of "F" or "U" will be assigned. Exceptions to this policy may be made under documented mitigating circumstances if the student was passing the course at the last date of attendance.

A retroactive grade of "W" may be awarded only if the student would have been eligible under the previously stated policy to receive a "W" on the last date of class attendance. The last date of attendance for a distance education course will be the last date that work was submitted.

Late withdrawal appeals will be reviewed and a decision made by the Coordinator of Admissions and Records.

No-Show Policy

A student must either attend face-to-face courses or demonstrate participation in distance learning courses by the last date to drop for a refund. A student who does not meet this deadline will be reported to the Admissions and Records Office and will be withdrawn as a no-show student. No refund will be applicable, and the student will not be allowed to attend/participate in the class or submit assignments. Failure to attend or participate in a course will adversely impact a student's financial aid award.

Instructor Initiated Withdrawal

A student who adds a class or registers after the first day of class is counted absent from all class meetings missed. Each instructor is responsible for keeping a record of student attendance (face-to-face classes) or performance/participation (DE classes) in each class throughout the semester.

When a student's absences equal twice the number of weekly meetings of a class (equivalent amount of time for summer session), the student may be dropped for unsatisfactory attendance in the class by the instructor.

Since attendance is not a valid measurement for Distance Education (DE) courses, a student may be withdrawn due to non-performance. A student should refer to his/her DE course plan for the instructor's policy.

In accordance with the No-Show Policy, a student who has not attended class or requested/accessed distance learning materials by the last day to drop the class and receive a refund must be withdrawn by the instructor during the following week. No refund will be applicable.

When an instructor withdraws a student for unsatisfactory attendance (face-to-face class) or non-performance (DE class), the last date of attendance/participation will be documented. Withdrawal must be completed within five days of a student's meeting the withdrawal criteria. A grade of "W" will be recorded during the first sixty percent (60%) period of a course. A student withdrawn after the sixty percent (60%) period will receive a grade of "F" or "U" except under documented mitigating circumstances when a letter of appeal has been submitted by the student. A copy of this documentation must be placed in the student's academic file.

The student will be notified of the withdrawal by the Admissions and Records Office. An appeal of reinstatement into the class may be approved only by the instructor.

Disability and Diversity Statements

If you are a student with a documented disability who will require accommodations in this course, please register with the Disability Services Office located in the Counseling Center for assistance in developing a plan to address your academic needs.

The NRCC community values the pluralistic nature of our society. We recognize diversity including, but not limited to, race, ethnicity, religion, culture, social class, age, gender, sexual orientation and physical or mental capability. We respect the variety of ideas, experiences and practices that such diversity entails. It is our commitment to ensure equal opportunity and to sustain a climate of civility for all who work or study at NRCC or who otherwise participate in the life of the college.

Evacuation Procedure: Please note the evacuation route posted at the classroom doorway. Two routes are marked in case one route might be blocked.

ADDENDUM

Emergency Exits

Students should be aware of the emergency exit routes map posted near the classroom door.

Inclement Weather Policy and Emergency Notification:

You are encouraged to sign up for NRCC Alert (access www.nr.edu to sign up for alerts):

New River Community College uses NRCC Alert to contact you immediately for a college closing or emergency. NRCC Alert delivers important emergency alerts, notifications, and updates to you on all your devices:

- E-mail account (work, home, other)
- Cell phone
- Pager
- Smartphone/PDA (BlackBerry, Treo & other handhelds)

Additionally, the following radio and television stations are notified when the college is forced to close or to operate on a delayed schedule because of inclement weather. NOTE: Separate announcements are made for day and evening classes.

WDBJ Channel 7 Roanoke

WLSL Channel 10 Roanoke

WSLQ 99 FM Roanoke

WVTF 89.1 FM Roanoke

WXLK 92 FM Roanoke

WRAD 1460 AM Radford

WPSK 107.1 FM Pulaski WFNR 710 AM/100.7 FM Christiansburg

WBRW 105.3 FM Christiansburg

WBRF 98.1 FM Galax

WMEV 94 FM Marion

WYVE 1280 AM Wytheville

WXVX 95.3 FM Wytheville

The following steps will be followed in the event that New River Community College elects to go on a delayed schedule: When the college opens at 10:00 a.m., classes scheduled to start after that time will meet for their normal duration. Classes originally scheduled before 10:00 a.m. will not meet, except for classes that would ordinarily extend past 10:00 a.m. (For example, for a 9:30 a.m. to 10:50 a.m. class, students should report at 10:00 a.m.) Should a later time of opening be announced, the same logic will apply.

Following are some suggestions for obtaining accurate information during inclement weather:

1. Listen to more than one radio or television station. We strive to provide accurate up-to-date information to each station. However, mistaken information is sometimes aired. Verify the information you hear with the broadcast of another station.
2. Listen to the announcements more than once. Occasionally, severe weather warrants that a decision to delay opening be changed to a decision to close.
3. Call NRCC (674-3600). You will reach the automated attendant. Don't dial an extension; simply hold the line to hear the recorded information.
4. Check the college's web site. In the event of a closing or delay, an effort will be made to post this information on the college's web site (www.nr.edu). Student and NRCC personnel are encouraged to utilize this option, but please be aware that technical difficulties sometimes prevent this information from being posted in a timely manner.

