

Creative Writing I

Mr. Tyrell Graham

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Room: 246

Overview

Throughout the semester, we will be focusing on three major genres of writing; poetry, short fiction, and scriptwriting. Each genre of writing will be covered in a six-week period. In that time, we will read, study, and discuss works of published authors. We will also spend ample time creating our own work in each genre. By the end of the semester, you should be able to write in a variety of poetry styles, fiction sub-genres, and theatre scriptwriting format.

This course is an accepted college entrance requirement course. A grade of "C" or above will be needed if you plan to attend an OUS school. It is highly recommended that a student with a "D" grade in a required college entrance course meet with a counselor to discuss if that course will have to be retaken.

General Philosophy

EXPECT R.E.S.P.E.C.T.

To understand the full meaning of this philosophy, please note that R.E.S.P.E.C.T. represents:

Reasonable behavior
Eagerness to learn
Supplies needed
Put downs not allowed
Everyone participates
Classroom kept clean
Take responsibility for ourselves

In my classroom, both you and I are bound by this philosophy. There is no double standard or special dispensation available.

Class Materials

Please remember to bring all materials (especially paper) with you every day. This should include at least one pen and pencil. **A three-ring binder and loose-leaf paper is required.**

You have no official class textbook, but we will be reading from several works throughout the semester. All materials will either be available in class or online.

Assignments

You will be responsible for all assignments given over the course of the year. 70% of your total grade will come from the three summative projects over the course of the semester (poetry, fiction, scriptwriting). 30% of your total grade will come from the formative activities that occur throughout the semester (daily assignments and homework).

Classroom Norms

1. Respect yourself, your peers, and the learning environment, in the traditional and online classroom.
2. Use strong interpersonal communication skills with peers and the teacher--this includes showing up to class in person or online classes ready and willing to present work.
3. Be caring and honest, demonstrating integrity through digital citizenship and a strong work ethic.
4. Students are expected to always follow school rules and will face appropriate consequences as outlined by the district in the handbook, in addition to consequences from the classroom teacher.

Electronic devices are not to be used during class time. That means either for phone calls, messages, or music. Students will have to meet with one of our behaviour specialists if they refuse to put their device away during class. On rare occasions, teacher may give students permission to listen to music (one ear bud only) while working on longer activities.

Accommodations and Modifications

Accommodations and Modifications to this course will be made based on TAG, IEP or 504 identifications. These changes are on an individual basis to best meet the needs of the student. Please contact the teacher for questions.

TAG

"The curriculum and instruction of this course will be differentiated based on assessed data and ongoing learning evidence to include specialized groupings, compacting of curriculum, accelerated pacing, and providing of extension/challenge activities (on the principle of 'different work' not 'more work'), in order to ensure that students designated as 'Talented and Gifted' (TAG) receive academic instruction that is appropriate for their rate and level of learning."

Grading Policy

Academic grades will reflect student proficiency in elements from multiple Common Core State Standards. All assignments and assessments that contribute to a student's overall grade will be graded on a 5-point scale.

Final grades will be configured as follows:

A	3.25-4
B	2.5-3.24
C	1.75-2.49
D	1.0-1.74
F	0-0.99

Homework/Late Work

Daily homework will be minimal, and due dates will be prominently announced and posted in the classroom. Unit projects can include in-class time, but most of the work will need to be completed as homework. You will always have 1-3 weeks to complete unit projects. All assignments must be turned in on the specified date to receive prompt feedback.

All formative activities must be completed and submitted by the end of their respective units.

Academic Honesty/Cheating

Cheating is not an acceptable habit to get into. Cheating includes, but is not limited to, looking at others' tests, copying someone else's work, turning in papers from the Internet as your own, merely rewording from the Internet, or allowing someone to copy off of you. Students caught cheating may be subject to administrative discipline. **This is a creative writing class. I want to see your creative efforts, not those of someone else.**

Availability

Need Help?

- A. Speak with me and make an appointment.
- B. Check my classroom after school. If I am not already engaged, I can assist you.
- C. You are always welcome to e-mail me your question (I usually respond within 24 hours).