

# COURSE SYLLABUS

## ENG 351: Creative Writing

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### Course Description

Creative writing is designed to give students experience writing a variety of forms of fiction. Students will keep creative writing journals, create poetry and write a short story. The course will also introduce students to a variety of Web-based and community groups for creative writers.

### General Course Information

Number of Units/Weeks	4/10
#Hours Lecture/#Hours Laboratory/#Homework	40/00/80
Prerequisite(s)	ENG 110
Co-requisites (s)	None
Course Developer(s)	Vani Neelakantan, MA
Date Approved / Last Review	January 2010 / September 2014

### Learning Outcomes

- Analyze the three genres of creative writing, fiction, poetry, and drama
- Understand of the key elements of poetic writing and how it differs from prose writing
- Identify and utilize the main elements of dramatic structure in fiction and drama

### Instructional Methods Employed in this Course

- Lecture and reading assignments
- Hands-on exercises and labs
- Research
- Student presentations
- Practical application of theory and skills in authentic design projects
- Build on prior knowledge and experience of students to enhance richness of class activities

### Information Resources for this Course



#### Textbook

Thiel, D. (2005). Crossroads: Creative writing exercises in four genres. New York: Pearson/Longman.



#### Other Materials

A notebook with plenty of paper



## Web Site Readings

<http://americanfolklore.net>

## Table/Topics & Assignments

### Types of Assignments:

#### Lecture -

Considered Lecture Hours

#### Classroom Discussion -

Considered Lecture Hours

#### In Class Critique -

Considered Lecture Hours

#### Delivering Oral Presentations -

Considered Lecture Hours

#### In Class (IC) Exercise -

Considered Lecture Hours

#### Reading -

Considered Homework (HW), work done outside of class

#### Web Class lesson (non-online courses) -

Considered Homework (HW), work done outside of class

#### Lab Work -

Considered Lab Hours

#### Quiz, Midterm or Final -

Considered Lecture Hours

Week 1						
Type	Topic/Description	LEC Hours	LAB Hours	HW Hours	Point Value	Due
LEC1A	Introduction to Course Materials	1				
LEC 1B	What is Creative Writing?	1				
LEC 1C	Fables, Fairy tales and Parables	1				
HW 1A	Personal Narrative transformed into a Fable exercise.	1		2	3	Week 1
HW 1B	Journal Entries.			2	3	Week 2

HW 1C	Read Thiel (chapter 1) and story provided by instructor (evaluated by LEC 2B and HW 1A)			3		
Total Week 1		4	0	7	6	
<b>Week 2</b>						
Type	Topic/Description	LEC Hours	LAB Hours	HW Hours	Point Value	Due
LEC 2A	Setting/Character	2				
LEC 2B	Discuss Readings & Journals	1				
IC EX 2A	Complete Character Sheet	1				
HW 2A	Fiction Story Draft			4	4	Week 3
HW 2B	Journal Response			3	3	Week 3
HW 2C	Read Thiel (2-5) and stories provided by instructor (evaluated by writing exercises and drafts)			3		
Total Week 2		4	0	10	7	
<b>Week 3</b>						
Type	Topic/Description	LEC Hours	LAB Hours	HW Hours	Point Value	Due
LEC 3A	POV, Plot, Theme	1.5				
LEC 3B	Discuss Readings & Journals	1				
IC EX 3A	Fiction Workshop	1.5				
HW 3A	Revise Fiction Assignment into Final Fiction Project			4	7	Week 4
HW 3B	Read Thiel ch. 8 and pgs 262-289) evaluated by ELC 3C			3		
HW 3C	Workbook exercises #1, #3 (from Thiel pgs. 48-9)			4.5	7	Week 4
Total Week 3		0	0	11.5	14	
<b>Week 4</b>						
Type	Topic/Description	LEC Hours	LAB Hours	HW Hours	Point Value	Due
LEC 4A	Prose versus poetry	2				

LEC 4B	Discuss Readings & Journals	1				
LEC 4C	Fiction Term Review	1				
HW 4A	TV Show Pilot exercise			4.5	5	Week 5
HW 4B	Read Thiel (ch. 15-16), (pgs. 211-241) evaluated by written exercises and in-class discussion			3		
Total Week 4		4	0	7.5	5	
<b>Week 5</b>						
Type	Topic/Description	LEC Hours	LAB Hours	HW Hours	Point Value	Due
LEC 5A	Closed Form Poetry, cont. Sonnets, rhyme, line length, and meter.	3				
LEC 5B	Discuss Readings & Journals	1				
HW 5A	Poetry Assignment: Haikus and Sonnet			5.5	4	Week 6
HW 5B	Writing Exercises #4			2	3	Week 6
Total Week 5		4	0	7.5	7	
<b>Week 6</b>						
Type	Topic/Description	LEC Hours	LAB Hours	HW Hours	Point Value	Due
LEC 6A	Introducing detective stories	1				
IC EX 6A	Analysis of Stories	2				
HW 6A	Journal entries			4	7	Week 7
HW 6B	Detective Story			4	7	Week 7
Total Week 6		4	0	8	14	
<b>Week 7</b>						
Type	Topic/Description	LEC Hours	LAB Hours	HW Hours	Point Value	Due
LEC 7A	Introduction to Dramatic Structure	3				
LEC 7B	Differences in Drama versus prose fiction	1				
HW 7A	Writing Exercises #5			4	7	Week 8
HW 7B	Read Thiel (pgs. 351-385, pg. 308-311) (evaluated by in class			4		

	discussion and written assignments)					
Total Week 7		4	0	8	7	
<b>Week 8</b>						
Type	Topic/Description	LEC Hours	LAB Hours	HW Hours	Point Value	Due
LEC 8A	Character, Dialogue, and Script formatting	3				
LEC 8B	Discuss Readings & Journals	1				
HW 8A	Selected Readings of your choice, Read Thiel (ch. 10-13, 17) evaluated by written assignments and discussion			4		
HW 8B	Writing Exercises #6			3.5	5	Week 9
HW 8C	Short Scene Draft			3	5	Week 9
Total Week 8		4	0	10.5	10	
<b>Week 9</b>						
Type	Topic/Description	LEC Hours	LAB Hours	HW Hours	Point Value	Due
IC EX 9A	Stage directions and review	2				
LEC 9A	Dramatic Writing Wrap Up	1				
LEC 9B	Looking Back!	1				
HW 9A	Revise Dramatic Scene into Final Dramatic Project			5	10	Week 10
HW 9B	View a play/film/read play (evaluated by class discussion)			3		Week 10
Total Week 9		4	0	8	10	
<b>Week 10</b>						
Type	Topic/Description	LEC Hours	LAB Hours	HW Hours	Point Value	Due
LEC 10A	Showcase Presentation	2		2	10	
LEC 10B	Final thoughts	2				Week 10
IC EX. 10A	Participation (evaluated by participation in class discussion)				10	Week 10
Total Week 10		4	0	2	20	

## Course Hours Summary

Week	Topic	LEC Hours	LAB Hours	HW Hours
1	Intro to Creative Writing Fairy tales, Fables, and Parables	4	0	7
2	Intro to Fiction: Character and Setting	4	0	10
3	Fiction: Plot, theme, and story	4	0	11.5
4	Intro to Poetry: Prose versus Poetry	4	0	7.5
5	Closed Form Poetry: Sonnet Structure	4	0	7.5
6	Detective Stories	4	0	8
7	Intro to Dramatic Writing, dramatic structure	4	0	8
8	Character, dialogue, and script formatting	4	0	10.5
9	Stage directions and review	4	0	8
10	Showcase	4	0	2
Total		40	0	8

## Table/Point Breakdown

Week	Assignment	Possible Points	Percent of Grade
1	Personal Narrative into a fable	3	3%
1	Journal Entries	3	3%
2	Fiction Draft	4	4%
2	Journal Response	3	3%
3	Revise Fiction Draft	7	7%
3	Journal Response	7	7%
4	T.V Show Plot Exercise	5	5%
5	Two Haikus and a sonnet	4	4%
5	Writing exercises	3	3%
6	Detective Story	7	7%
6	Journal Entries	7	7%
7	Writing Exercises	7	7%
8	Short Scene Draft	5	5%
8	Writing Exercises	5	5%
9	Final Dramatic Project	10	10%
10	Showcase	10	10%
	Participation	10	10%
Total		100	100%

## Your Grades for this Course

Your final grade for this course will be based on an assessment by the Instructor of your performance on a number of course activities, which may include objective tests, classroom exercises, laboratory demonstrations, project papers, or other types of activities. The chart below indicates in what activities you will engage, how many possible points can be earned for each activity, and the percentage of your final grade that will be accounted for by each activity.

Students in this course should be graded following Coleman University assessment practices and policies. A point system is used in the University to indicate student performance on various required activities or projects. For this course, it is recommended that points be distributed as follows:

### Coleman University Grade Assignment Policy:

Percent	Letter Grade	Grade Points
94-100	A	4
90-93	A-	3.67
87-89	B+	3.33
84-86	B	3
80-83	B-	2.67
77-79	C+	2.33
74-76	C	2
70-73	C-	1.67
67-69	D+	1.33
64-66	D	1
60-63	D-	0.67
N/A	INC	0
N/A	W	0
60 or above	CR	0
59 or below	NC	0
N/A	I	0
N/A	W	0
N/A	AU	0
N/A	TR	0
N/A	WV	0

Legend	
CR = Credit	NC = No Credit
I = Incomplete	W = Course Withdrawal
AU = Audit	TR = Transfer Credit

WV = Waiver	
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## **Academic Accommodation / Adjustment Policy:**

In accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), Coleman University offers accommodations to students with documented physical, psychological, and/or cognitive disabilities. Coleman University will adhere to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations as required to offer equal educational opportunities to qualified disabled individuals.

To qualify for an academic accommodation under ADA, the student must provide adequate documentation of a disability. Students seeking academic accommodations should contact the campus ADA Coordinator at 858-966-3953 or via email at [ada@coleman.edu](mailto:ada@coleman.edu). The ADA Coordinator will review the documentation provided and verify ADA coverage. Students covered under ADA must meet with the ADA Coordinator at the beginning of every term to determine the appropriate academic accommodations. Failing to meet with the ADA Coordinator at the beginning of every term may impact the availability of accommodations.

After the academic accommodations have been determined, the students' instructors will be notified by the ADA Coordinator. If any problems or concerns regarding the provision of accommodations occur, the student must inform the ADA Coordinator. If the student feels accommodation is not being made appropriately, the student may follow the published Student Grievance Procedures.