

COURSE OUTLINE

English 270 – Introduction to Creative Writing
Dr. Lucas Carpenter
Spring 2009 Semester

I. Objectives of the Course

Through class participation, four formal writing assignments, the compilation of a portfolio of poetry and fiction, the student will be graded on his/her ability:

- A. To analyze and assess the quality and effectiveness of a poem or short story.
- B. To develop personal criteria by which to evaluate the quality and effectiveness of one's own poetry and short fiction.
- C. To write effective poems and short stories of literary quality.

II. Student Requirements for Completing the Course

- A. Four formal writing assignments to be described later. One letter grade will be deducted for each day an assignment is late.
- B. The compilation of a portfolio of one's best work during the semester. This portfolio must contain five poems and two stories and a statement as to why you think they are effective. One letter grade will be deducted for each day the portfolio is late.
- C. The regular submission of work for class discussion.
- D. Satisfactory participation in class discussion, which can only be accomplished if the attendance policy is observed.

III. Attendance Policy

- A. A student is permitted two (2) absences. After two (2) absences, one point will be deducted from the final grade for each additional absence.
- B. Students who are late must assume personal responsibility to see that the record is altered at the end of class. This record will not be changed at a later date.

IV. Grading Practices

The grade will be determined by an evaluation of the entire semester's work, with special emphasis on the fulfillment of course objectives. Grading will generally adhere to the following:

Class participation	10%
Four formal assignments	40%
Semester portfolio	50%

V. Textbooks

Poetry: A Pocket Anthology, ed. R. S. Gwynn
Fiction: A Pocket Anthology, ed. R. S. Gwynn

VI. Course Calendar

January 15	Preliminary
January 19-23	Poetry
January 26-30	Poetry 1st Assignment Due
February 2-6	Poetry
February 9-13	Short fiction
February 16-20	Short fiction 2nd Assignment Due
February 23-27	Short fiction
March 2-6	Short fiction
March 9-13	Spring Break
March 16-20	Poetry
March 23-27	Poetry 3rd Assignment Due
March 30-April 3	Short fiction
April 6-10	Short fiction Class Reading
April 13-17	Short fiction 4th Assignment Due
April 20-24	Poetry/short fiction Portfolio Due
April 28	Last Class

VII. Office Hours

My office is located in Seney Hall, The Thinkery, Room 115B, and my office hours are:

Monday-Friday 2:00 - 3:00 PM

If these hours are ever inconvenient, appointments can be arranged. Please do not hesitate to see me about anything that is of concern to you.

VIII. Honor Code

I assume that you are familiar with the Honor Code and that you know what plagiarism is.