

COURSE OUTLINE

English 270 – Introduction to Creative Writing
Dr. Lucas Carpenter
Spring 2004 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 at least 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.
- E. Satisfactory participation in class public reading and/or production of *The Oxford Review*.

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%
Participation in reading and/or OR	10%
Four formal assignments	40%
Semester portfolio	40%

V. Textbooks

The Best American Poetry 2003, ed. Yusef Komunyakaa

The O. Henry Prize Stories 2003, ed. Laura Furman

VI. Course Calendar

January 14-16	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 1-5	Short fiction
March 8-12	Spring Break
March 15-19	Poetry
March 22-26	Poetry 3rd Assignment Due
March 29-April 2	Short fiction
April 5-9	Short fiction Class Reading
April 12-16	Short fiction 4th Assignment Due
April 19-23	Poetry/short fiction Portfolio Due
April 26	Last Class

VII. Office Hours

My office is located in Humanities, Room 105, and my office hours are 1-2 pm, Monday, Wednesday and Friday. If these hours are ever inconvenient, appointments can be arranged. Please do not hesitate to see me about **anything** of concern to you.

VIII. Honor Code

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