

COURSE OUTLINE

English 270 – Introduction to Creative Writing  
Dr. Lucas Carpenter  
Spring 2008 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.
- 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**

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

## VI. Course Calendar

January 17	Preliminary
January 21-25	Poetry
January 28-February 1	Poetry <b>1<sup>st</sup> Assignment Due</b>
February 4-8	Poetry
February 11-15	Short fiction
February 18-22	Short fiction <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Assignment Due</b>
February 25-March 1	Short fiction
March 3-7	Short fiction
March 10-14	Spring Break
March 17-21	Poetry
March 24-28	Poetry <b>3<sup>rd</sup> Assignment Due</b>
March 31-April 4	Short fiction
April 7-11	Short fiction <b>Class Reading</b>
April 14-18	Short fiction <b>4<sup>th</sup> Assignment Due</b>
April 21-25	Poetry/short fiction <b>Portfolio Due</b>
April 29	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.