**Creative Writing, Fiction Workshop**

**HSSP 2014**

**Instructor: Lee Hershey**

**Syllabus: Creative Writing, Fiction Workshop**

**Course Description:**

This course will excite young writers with numerous tools and alternative approaches to the writing process in fiction. Organized into a small group workshops based on students' choice of genre, key elements of the program include:  
  
• frequent workshop sessions in which leader and participants offer supportive feedback on your writing;  
• lively discussions of selections of literature;  
• individual meetings with workshop instructors to discuss how you will undertake a significant writing project and to review your progress;  
• writing-intensive sessions, focusing on challenging writing exercises;  
• a culminating project of submitting one piece of work for the class journal.   
  
This blend of small workshops, group writing sessions, plus presentations will inspire students to experiment with new approaches, and to consider issues of writing as process, and modes of creativity. As students grow as writers, they will hone their creative skills and deepen their passion for the writer's craft.

This course is ideal for students who have a serious interest in creative writing and modern literature, who are not afraid to experiment with structure, and who want to develop a daily writing practice.

**What is creative writing?** Creative writing is the art of crafting a piece for publication. Notebook generating is just one of the steps in the creative process. The true art of writing includes not only the process of journaling or generating, but also phases of reading, mentoring, experimenting/revising, and editing. All final pieces you will create for this class will reflect the process of writing. Our goal is to become a community of writers who experiment, craft, revise and tinker with our work. Writers see the world as text.

**Remember**: Write with passion and honesty. All we can ask for is honest effort and diligence in your work as a writer in this community. Make a commitment to your work and take pride in what you write. Do not worry about your creative skills at the beginning of the course; our classroom experiences will be dedicated to improvement no matter what your level today.

**Supplies:**

* Writer’s notebook,
* Writing utensil,
* Flash drive
* Planner

**Workplace Skills and Attitudes**

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As a member of the class you will be expected to participate in this course as if it were a professional work environment.

**Skills**

· Time management

· Successfully communicating with both teachers and peers

· Setting and completing tasks/trimester goals

· Asking for and offering assistance

· Following directions

· Listening to instructions, discussions and lessons

· Making thinking visible by speaking up in class

**Attitudes**

· contributing to a positive classroom environment

· Respect for classroom, building and peers

· Staying open-minded to all opinions, thoughts and interpretations of classroom material

· Willingness to express your own opinions, thoughts and interpretations authentic engagement in the learning process

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***Course Objectives***

**Enduring Understandings/Essential Questions**

Voice is established by the author in personal writing.

* How is voice established in fiction?
* What is the purpose of voice?

Point of view can be altered for different purposes or effects in fiction.

* What are the first, second, and third person point of view?
* How does an author decide the most effective point of view?

Showing a scene creates a picture in the reader’s mind.

* How does an author a how a scene?
* What are action verbs?
* Why are action verbs effective?

Style is unique to a particule author and genre.

* How do authors manipulate or create their style?

Fiction is a blend of actual experience and literary elements.

* What is fiction?
* What re the different forms of fiction?

Following the steps of the writing process enhances the final product.

Characters are developed through direct and indirect methods of characterization.

* What methods are used to create characters?
* How do you develop character indirectly?

Dialogue in fiction should mirror natural speech.

* How should dialogue be written?

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***Course Curriculum***

**Week One**

* Introduce class syllabus and expectations
* Discuss class goals
* Explain class project
* Lecture on creative writing: Voice
* In class reading
* Writing session

**Week Two**

* Discussion on workshop etiquette
* In class reading
* Workshop contemporary writers’ work
* Lecture on creative writing: Characters
* Writing session

**Week Three**

* Lecture on creative writing: Dialogue
* Writing Session
* Workshop Piece

**Week Four**

* Lecture on creative writing: Setting
* Writing Session
* Workshop Piece

**Week Five**

* Lecture on creative writing: Scene
* Class project due
* Writing session
* In class reading

**Week Six**

* Lecture on creative writing: Writing Process
* Last chance to hand in class project
* Writing session
* In class reading

**Week Seven**

* Distribute class project
* Presentations

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***Attendance:***

In order to get the most out of the class, consistent attendance is required. The instructor will take roll at the beginning of each class.

***Participation and Collegiality***

*Fashion in Revolution* is a seminar-designed course, and not a lecture. Therefore, participation in class discussion is an integral element of the course. As par of your obligation to the class, you must keep up with the readings and assignments, as well as participate in ongoing discussions. Active and courteous listening as well as pragmatic criticisms and debates are encouraged. Dominating class discussion or maintaining silence is discouraged.

***Statement of Academic Integrity***

This course will enforce strict standards of academic integrity. Papers must be handed in with scrupulous documentation of any sources used and must be entirely your own work. You are expected to follow both the rules of the instructor and that of the Institution with regards to acceptable and unacceptable collaboration on any given assignment. Violation of the academic integrity code will result in failure of the course. Please ask if you are unsure or if assignments are unclear.

***Statement on Disabilities***

Reasonable academic accommodations will be made for students with disabilities. If you are a person with disabilities, please contact the instructor outside of class.

***Statement on Cell Phone Use***

Please be considerate. Turn off your cell phone or silence your cell phone before arriving to class. However, if you should forget, please discreetly attend to the distraction as best as you can.

***Class Schedule and Reading Assignments***

Readings are listed on the date they are due. Please bring relevant materials to class, and please be prepared for class discussion. The instructor reserves the right to revise the syllabus if they should deem it necessary.

***Syllabus***

*The Teacher reserves the right to change the syllabus according to time constraints.*