English 444 Writers’ Workshop

Credit Hours: 3

Scheduled hours per week
Lecture: 
Lab: 
Other: 

Catalog Course Description: The Writers’ Workshop 2014 offers a rare opportunity for students to create, shape, and polish poetry, fiction, screen plays, drama, and creative non-fiction writing. The course will focus on elements essential to all good writing: style, word usage, mechanics, techniques of rhetoric, literary theory, and research. The Workshop stresses both creativity and practical skills. Other topics include manuscript preparation, critiquing, editing, and marketing.

Pre-requisites: Students should have taken ENGL 101 or ENGL 107 or its equivalent or be recommended by one of the participating instructors. The course is appropriate for students interested in improving their writing skills in all genres and for those interested in publishing professionally.

Co-requisites: NA

Course Learning Outcomes:
- Learn creative writing techniques for all genres
- Develop criteria to for students to assess their own and others’ writing
- Learn to distinguish effective writing from ineffective writing
- Become familiar with theories of style, diction, and word usage
- Learn market research methods and manuscript preparation
- Study targeting strategies for publishing
- Organize and promote public readings and performances

Topics to be studied:
- Exercises and assignments helpful to creative writing
- Styles and approaches related to genre
- Means of judging effectiveness of writing
- Creative writing process
- Manuscript preparation for various venues
- Logistics involved in general marketing and public presentation of creative work
Relationship of Course to Program or Discipline Learning Outcomes:

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<th>Student Learning Outcomes for Creative Writing</th>
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<td>1. Students will explore and practice the modes of various creative writing genres, including, but not limited to, fiction, creative nonfiction, poetry, and plays.</td>
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<td>2. Students will critically analyze genre conventions in representative works.</td>
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<td>3. Students will explore different publication venues and learn the basics of submitting a work for publication.</td>
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<td>4. Students will learn the basics of editing and curating a literary magazine.</td>
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<td>5. Students will participate in the dynamics of peer review.</td>
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<td>6. Students will maintain a professional portfolio that includes original work and subsequent revisions for future review and submission.</td>
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Special requirements of the course:
Attendance at all sessions of the Workshop is extremely important. Many of the writing skills that you will be required to incorporate into your work will be developed in class activities. Therefore attendance is necessary. Class notes from other students will not provide you with the same preparation that actual skill practice and class discussion will provide.

Your Pre-workshop reading and writing assignments must be completed before the first class session and brought with you to the first class. You will need to complete in final form the Pre-workshop, Workshop, and Post-workshop writing assignments by the due date: July 25, 2014.

Please make and keep a copy of all your work and your assignment checklist before dropping off the originals. Work turned in later than July 25, 2014 will not be accepted, and you will receive a grade of 0 on all of the assignments. All of the grades for individual assignments are given within the context of the completed portfolio. Students will not receive any individual grades for their assignments until the portfolio is reviewed.

Additional information:
(Anything else that may be useful.)
Prepared by: Dr. Sandra Kolankiewicz
Date: 10.20.2017