English 283-U820T: Creative Writing – Spring 2018 – 3 Credit Hours

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<tr>
<th>Meeting Time: Online</th>
<th>Location: Online</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Instructor: Cheyenne Marco</td>
<td>Email: <a href="mailto:Cheyenne.Marco@coyotes.usd.edu">Cheyenne.Marco@coyotes.usd.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Office Hours: Available via Email</td>
<td>Office: Dakota Hall 216</td>
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**Catalog Description**
Study of terms and practice in the techniques of writing fiction, poetry and/or drama.

**Course Prerequisites:** ENGL 101 and 210, or UHON 110

**Course Overview**
Introductory studio course in creative writing that emphasizes a hands-on, action-based approach toward the goal of developing skills in reading, craft and technique, and creativity. Creative Writing I seeks to challenge students' perceptions, assumptions, imaginations, and reading/writing abilities. The course covers at least two of the following genres: poetry, fiction, creative nonfiction, and drama.

**Required Texts and Other Materials**
- USD Email and Internet Access

**Course Activities**

**Reading:** Reading is essential to good writing. Successful creative writing emerges from the work and inspiration of other creative writers. In this class, we will be reading craft essays, short stories, and poems on a regular basis. Students will be expected to demonstrate familiarity with content through course discussion. In addition to readings from our textbook and online resources, all 283 participants are required to read and critically engage with the creative work produced by their peers.

**Writing:** By nature, Creative Writing will require a lot of writing. Major writing assignments for the course include a poem, short story, journal/collection analysis, and final portfolio with reflective introduction. Students will also be expected to draft written feedback for their peers’ poems and short stories. In addition to these formal compositions, students will participate in informal, in-class journaling on a regular basis. Journal entries will respond to an instructor-provided prompt with the goal of topic generation. A breakdown of major assignments can be found below; other assignments and due dates can be found on the course schedule and online.

**Other Activities**

**Workshop Notes:** As writers, our work is enhanced through the feedback of others. In this course, each student will have a poem and short story workshopped by the class. For each poem and short story, students should compose and post a 200-word minimum response that highlights what the writer has done well and offers possible suggestion for change. On workshop days, students will discuss the writer’s piece and provide a copy of the note to the author. *Workshop notes and discussion should be respectful and civil.* If a student becomes rude, antagonistic, or mean during a workshop session, s/he will be warned and lose participation points for the day. If this attitude persists, the student may be dropped from the course.

**Participation/Discussion Boards:** Because class participation is essential to a course with a reading and writing workshop format, you will be graded on how well you contribute to our class discussions. This grade will reflect not only the degree of your participation, but also the quality of your contributions. Your participation grade also includes journaling, in-class writing, peer group workshops and small-group discussions, attendance, timely submission of writing assignments and homework, reading quizzes, and any other activities included under the umbrella of participation points.
Quizzes: In order to assess familiarity with course content, I will administer announced and unannounced reading quizzes. These quizzes will be included in the participation grade.

Final Course Grades: To pass this course, you must meet the following requirements: 1) submit one original poem, 2) submit one original short story, and 3) submit a final portfolio. Your grade will be determined by performance on the following assignments:

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<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Point Value</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Poem</td>
<td>75</td>
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<tr>
<td>Short Story</td>
<td>115</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Workshop Notes</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Journal/Collection Review Essay</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Portfolio</td>
<td>250</td>
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<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>260</td>
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<tr>
<td>- 10 Creative Reading Responses (100 pts)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>- Weekly Discussion Posts (160 pts)</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>1000</strong></td>
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Final Course Grades (whole letter grades only):
1000-900 = A; 899-800 = B; 799-700 = C; 699-600 = D; below 600 = F.

Grading Scale for individual assignments (+/- system):

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<tr>
<td>A+ 97-100</td>
<td>B+ 87-89</td>
<td>C+ 77-79</td>
<td>D+ 67-69</td>
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<tr>
<td>A 93-96</td>
<td>B 83-86</td>
<td>C 73-76</td>
<td>D 63-66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A- 90-92</td>
<td>B- 80-82</td>
<td>C- 70-72</td>
<td>D- 60-62</td>
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Course Goals
This course fulfills the following goal of the South Dakota System General Education Requirements:

**GOAL #1: Students will write effectively and responsibly and will understand and interpret the written expression of others.**

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<th>LEARNING OUTCOMES:</th>
<th>ASSESSMENT:</th>
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<td>(1) Write using standard American English, including correct punctuation, grammar, and sentence structure</td>
<td>Student will compose a poem, short story, and critical review in standard American English.</td>
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<td>(2) Write logically</td>
<td>Students will compose workshop notes and critical journal entries that require them to use evidence and reasoning to justify their interpretation of a text.</td>
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<td>(3) Write persuasively, with a variety of rhetorical strategies (e.g., expository, argumentative, descriptive)</td>
<td>Students will compose workshop notes that require them to persuade the author and their classmates to make suggested adjustments to the presented material.</td>
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<td>(4) Incorporate formal research and documentation into their writing, including research obtained through modern, technology-based research tools</td>
<td>Students will complete an analysis of a journal or creative writing collection that requires them to do research on the publication’s history, audience, and focus. Students will also incorporate setting research into one of their creative pieces.</td>
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Course Policies
**Attendance:** Students who fail to login the first week of classes will be dropped from the course. Students who fail to participate in four consecutive online discussions will be dropped from the course for non-participation. Your participation is extremely important to your success in this course.

If you must miss class, contact me first. You will be responsible for submitting assignments due during the class you will miss **before the due date.** Absences due to a death in the family, illness, automobile accidents, and the like are treated as regular absences. Students who are absent due to university-sanctioned activities (athletics, for instance) must submit homework or other assignments **before the due date.** In case of heavy snow, please watch your emails for class cancelation announcements.

*If you do not contact me prior to missing class, you are responsible for obtaining the information covered in class from one of your peers.*

**Email:** I will do my best to respond to emails within twenty-four (24) hours during the week or forty-eight (48) hours on the weekend.

**D2L:** Students will submit all final drafts of each major writing assignment and all out-of-class brief writing assignments to D2L.

**“Recycled Writing” Policy:** All writing submitted for Creative Writing must be produced this semester for this course. Students who “recycle” writing submitted during previous attempts at Creative Writing or for other courses may be dropped from the course for non-participation.

**Late Writing Assignments & Make-up Policy:** All major essays and response papers must be submitted to D2L to receive credit. Late papers submitted to D2L will lose 5 percent from their overall grade for each day they are late (not just each class period). I will not accept papers after one week past the final due date. If you know that you will have to submit a late paper you must speak with me before the due date to make specific arrangements. Other late writing assignments, homework, and quizzes will not be accepted. **Students who miss in-class assignments, including exams,** will not be allowed to make up that work except under extenuating circumstances, and then only at the discretion of the instructor

**Extra Credit:** Extra credit will be available only to students who are in good standing in the course (in other words, students cannot pass the course with help from extra credit). Students may earn points for selected Writing Center Workshops they attend. Other opportunities will be at my discretion. Extra credit will not exceed more than 5% of a student’s grade (50 points).

**End of the Semester Grade Concerns:** The last week of the semester is NOT the time to be concerned about your overall course grade, nor is it the time to consult me about extra credit or ways to improve your current grade. Please monitor your grade throughout the semester to keep on top of missing/late assignments, extra credit, or requests for additional help. I will not award extra credit or accept late assignments during the last week of the semester.

**Incompletes:** No incompletes will be assigned for this course without the approval of the Director of Writing or English Department Chair.

**Fair Evaluation:** Each student is entitled to a fair grade in each course in which he or she is enrolled. It is the right and the responsibility of an instructor to establish criteria for evaluation for each course which he or she teaches, and to determine the degree to which an individual student has fulfilled the standards set for the course. Students should be apprised that extraneous factors, such as eligibility for sorority or fraternity membership, for scholarship or financial aid awards, for athletics, for timely graduation, or for admission to graduate or professional schools, have no bearing on the determination of grades. The quality of the student’s overall performance with respect to standards for evaluation will be the only basis for judgment.

**Resolving Complaints about Grades:** The first step in resolving a complaint about grades is ordinarily for the student to attempt to resolve the problem directly with the course instructor. If that attempt is unsuccessful, the student may bring the matter to the Department Chair, who will assist the instructor and the student in reaching a resolution. Grade appeals not resolved with the assistance of the Department Chair may be directed to the Office of the Dean of the College of Arts
and Sciences (for undergraduates) or to the Dean of the Graduate School (for graduate students), provided that the grading
decision at issue would affect the student’s final course grade. The student initiating the grade appeal should be prepared
to show that the grade was decided unfairly. According to South Dakota Board of Regents Policy 2:9, any academic
appeal must be initiated within thirty calendar days from the date that the student received notification of the grade, unless
the grade is assigned within fifteen calendar days of the end of the term. In that case, any appeal must be initiated within
fifteen calendar days after the start of the next term (fall, spring, or summer).

Academic Integrity
The College of Arts and Sciences considers plagiarism, cheating, and other forms of academic dishonesty inimical to the
objectives of higher education. The College supports the imposition of penalties on students who engage in academic
dishonesty, as defined in the “Conduct” section of the University of South Dakota Student Handbook.

No credit can be given for a dishonest assignment. A student found to have engaged in any form of academic dishonesty
may, at the discretion of the instructor, be:
- Given a zero for that assignment.
- Allowed to rewrite and resubmit the assignment for credit.
- Assigned a reduced grade for the course.
- Dropped from the course.
- Failed in the course.

Plagiarism and Cheating Addendum: Plagiarism occurs when a student submits another person’s writing as his/her own
or has another person dictate what should be written. Academic dishonesty also includes the following, as outlined in the
student code of conduct: “Cheating, which is defined as, but not limited to the following: a. use or giving of any
unauthorized assistance in taking quizzes, tests, or examinations; b. use of sources beyond those authorized by the
instructor in writing papers, preparing reports, solving problems, or carrying out other assignments; or c. acquisition,
without permission, of tests or other academic material belonging to a member of the institutional faculty or staff.”
Plagiarism or academic dishonesty in any single assignment, including short papers, reflective assignments, and drafts, no
matter how long or what degree of plagiarism, will be referred to the Director of Writing and/or the English Department
Chair. The default penalty for plagiarism or academic dishonesty is course failure. Students who appear to have
plagiarized or appear to have provided writing or other inappropriate assistance to other students for the purposes of
plagiarism or cheating will be referred to the Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities.

Program Review and Faculty Development: Any written work submitted for this course may be used for purposes of
program review and/or faculty development.

Freedom in Learning
Under Board of Regents and University policy student academic performance may be evaluated solely on an academic
basis, not on opinions or conduct in matters unrelated to academic standards. Students should be free to take reasoned
exception to the data or views offered in any course of study and to reserve judgment about matters of opinion, but they
are responsible for learning the content of any course of study for which they are enrolled. Students who believe that an
academic evaluation reflects prejudiced or capricious consideration of student opinions or conduct unrelated to academic
standards should contact the dean of the college or school that offers the class to initiate a review of the evaluation.

Disability Accommodation
Any student who feels s/he may need academic accommodations or access accommodations based on the impact of a
documented disability should contact and register with Disability Services during the first week of class or as soon as
possible after the diagnosis of a disability. Disability Services is the official office to assist students through the process
of disability verification and coordination of appropriate and reasonable accommodations. Students currently registered
with Disability Services must obtain a new accommodation memo each semester.

Please note: if your home institution is not the University of South Dakota but one of the other South Dakota Board of
Regents institutions (e.g., SDSU, SDSMT, BHSU, NSU, DSU), you should work with the disability services coordinator
at your home institution.

Ernetta L. Fox, Director
Disability Services, Room 119 Service Center
Diversity and Inclusive Excellence
The University of South Dakota strives to foster a globally inclusive learning environment where opportunities are provided for diversity to be recognized and respected.