

Course Code: ENG 161

Course Title: Creative Writing I - Fiction

Department: Humanities

Effective Date: Summer 2026

PCS Code: 1.1 - Baccalaureate/Transfer

CIP Code: 23.1302

Repeatability: 0

Credit Hours

Catalog Notation: 3-0-3

Credit Hour Distribution:

Lecture: 3

Lab: 0

Clinical: 0

Total: 3

General Course Information

Catalog Description

Introductory course for exploring the structure and elements of fiction as well as the writing process; students will produce fully developed works, with attention to the development of fictional techniques, and learn terminology current in creative writing.

General Course Objectives

This course will introduce students to the techniques commonly used in the writing of stories, and students will apply these techniques in the creation of their own fictional works.

Minimum Placement Levels

English	Reading	Math
Credit in ENG 101 with a grade of C or higher	Placement out of CCS 098	None

Prerequisites

None

Methods of Evaluation

A minimum of 45 pages (approximately 14,500) words of original work. Minimum of 4 story assignments; 3-4 exercises of 2-3 pages each; minimum of 4 written and/or oral workshop critiques of classmates' work. Regular attendance and participation.

Instructional Materials and Additional Supplies

None.

Course Content

General Learning Outcomes (GLOs)

- Communication: Students will demonstrate the ability to read, write, listen, and speak effectively.
- Creativity and Innovative Thinking: Students will design, present, and interpret materials, information, and ideas in innovative ways.

Course Segments and Student Learning Outcomes

Course Segment	Learning Outcomes	Lecture Hours	Lab Hours	Clinical Hours
Story and Character Creation	1. Utilize invention strategies (free writing, journal keeping, note-taking, etc.) in order to invent characters and stories.	3	0	0
Discussion and Analysis of Fictional Techniques: character development, plot construction, various uses of dialogue, point-of-view strategies, and development of theme	1. Organize and develop the parts of traditional dramatic plot structure, including exposition, rising action, climax, falling action, and denouement. 2. Develop the internal conflicts that create depth in characters and the external conflicts that create depth in the relationships characters have with each other and the world. 3. Develop setting through the use of select detail. 4. Write dialogue that reveals character and advances plot. 5. Focus the pacing of a narrative so that it cycles effectively through exposition, scene, dialogue, and action. 6. Determine which narrative point of view is most appropriate to the purposes of any given story, and write from that point of view in telling the story. 7. Explain the difference between literal and figurative language and know when each should be used. 8. Explain what theme is in modern fiction, and distinguish between theme and a simple moral.	18	0	0
Workshop-Based Discussion and Analysis of Both Published and Student-Produced Writing	1. Use the critical terminology of the profession in order to discuss and analyze the fiction written by peers and by professionals.	24	0	0

Total Contact Hours

Lecture Hours	Lab Hours	Clinical Hours
45	0	0