

**Department of English and Modern Languages
College of Arts and Sciences
Fall Semester, 20XX**

**Course Syllabus for
ENGL 250 Intro to Creative Writing**

This Course Qualifies as a Pitt State Pathway Course

The *Pitt State Pathway* curriculum serves as the heart of the university education by fostering interdisciplinary competencies that typify the educated person. It is designed to facilitate the development of key proficiencies including communication and information literacy. The *Pitt State Pathway* curriculum provides a transformational experience that challenges students to think creatively and critically, and to immerse themselves in the productive examination of humans in their global setting. By encouraging the development of skills that promote life-long learning, the *Pitt State Pathway* fosters a sense of personal responsibility, an appreciation of diversity, and an understanding of interconnectedness in our truly global society.

Catalog Description

Learning methods of writing contemporary poetry and fiction; reading poetry and fiction as a writer. Prerequisite: ENGL 101 English Composition.

Course Objectives

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Successfully recognize fiction and poetry terms and concepts,
- Examine conventions of literary poetry and fiction, including short story, flash fiction, narrative poetry, closed and open form,
- Explain how the process of drafting and revision creates interesting and entertaining poetry and fiction which will appeal to a reading audience,
- Understand how to create literary fiction and poetry using a variety of forms, styles, and techniques,
- Understand the concept of reading like a writer,
- Understand peers' literary fiction and poetry as well as professional and published other writers' work,
- Explain and identify their own writing voices and goals.

Nature of the Course

This course introduces students to creative writing experiences that expand their awareness of literature as an art form, of the process and purposes of creative writing, and of aesthetic perception of the written word. It is organized to develop and challenge students' abilities to think creatively and write imaginative and coherent poetry and prose. Class discussion that emphasizes student work in the workshop/studio tradition and the analysis of literature as a way to understanding possibility and technique is a vital element of the course. The students will write poetry and prose, evaluate their own writer's voice, and will review strategies for publication.

Pitt State Pathway Essential Element to be covered in this course:

Human Experience within a Global Context Essential Studies

Understanding the diverse nature, meanings, or functions of creative endeavors through the study of literature, music, theater, visual arts, or related forms of expression help us understand ourselves. Competency in this element means:

- *Applying* cultural concepts and/or methodologies in the analysis of literary, performing, visual, or other art forms;
- *Analyzing* how literature, performance, the visual arts, or other creative endeavors respond to and influence society and culture;
- *Analyzing* creative endeavors in a contextual framework, such as critical theory, aesthetics, philosophy of art, or rhetoric;
- *Demonstrating* concepts that characterize a polycentric view of the world in contrast to an ethnocentric perspective.

The Pitt State Pathway Companion Element to be covered in this course is:

Diverse perspectives within a Global Context:

Valuing different perspectives and analyzing the interrelationships between them leads to global respect and understanding. Competency in this element means:

- *Applying* multiple perspectives to personal, social, cultural, disciplinary, environmental, race, ethnicity, gender, nationhood, religion, or class interactions;
- *Analyzing* connections between worldviews, power structures, or experiences of multiple cultures in a historical or contemporary context;
- *Analyzing* issues of diversity (i.e. religious, racial, sexual orientations, gender, or disabilities).

Learning Outcome: Students will explore global systems conscientiously.

The Pitt State Pathway Learning Outcome Level of this course is Milestone 1:

Students will explain how various art forms respond to and influence society and culture and also explain the role of worldviews and power structures in addressing significant global problems.

Methods

To achieve our instructional objectives, instructors will employ lecture, discussion, and student oral and written response. Faculty may also employ some combination of other instructional methods, including worksheets, small-group work, journals, readings in literary criticism, creative writing assignments, videos and films, out-of-class cultural events (e.g. poetry readings, etc.), in-class writing, panels, out-of-class responses, role playing, outside speakers, etc.

Assessment

Student work will be evaluated on the basis of examinations and papers. Faculty may also employ some combination of other evaluation methods, including worksheets, small group work, journals, creative writing assignments, in-class writing, panels, out-of-class responses, quizzes, etc.