

SYLLABUS, ENGLISH 299, CREATIVE WRITING
SECTION 70
CRN 30346

PREREQUISITES: English 101 or instructor consent.

CREDIT HOURS: 3

TIME & PLACE: B16, T/Th, 4:40 – 5:55

INSTRUCTOR: James Ralston, Asst. Professor of English, BRCTC: Office B23
jralston@blueridgectc.edu 304 260 4380 ex 2348

OFFICE HOURS: Tues: 11:30 – 12:30
Weds: 12:00 – 2:00, 3:00 – 6:00
Thurs: 10:30 – 12:30
Fri: By appointment

TEXT: *Three Genres: The Writing of Fiction/Literary Nonfiction, Poetry, and Drama*,
by Stephen Minot. 8th edition.

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course will focus equally on the main three genres: poetry, fiction/ literary non-fiction, and drama. In addition to reading several chapters in the text, the students will be required to write a minimum of five poems, one short story, one personal essay, and one one-act play for their course portfolio. A portion of each class period will be devoted to critiquing student work.

EXPECTED STUDENT OUTCOMES: Through study of the text; through their own efforts to create; and through candid, friendly class critiques, the students will become more accomplished writers in each of the three genres.

GRADE: The work submitted in each genre will be given a grade; then the average will determine the final grade, with the student's best genre counted double. Improvement will be factored in.

ATTENDANCE POLICY: Regular attendance is crucial. If a problem occurs, it will be discussed on an individual basis.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY: Student guilty of academic dishonesty, including plagiarism and cheating on visual work, will be penalized with a grade of F for the course, with written notification to the Dean of Academic Instruction.

SCHEDULE OF READINGS AND ASSIGNMENTS

PART I: CREATIVE NON-FICTION AND FICTION

August 21: Introduction to the course

August 23: Minot: 1 – 10.

August 28: Minot: 25 – 31. Student literary non-fiction critiques begin.

August 30: Non-fiction critiques continue.

September 4: Critiques continue.

September 6: Minot: 32 – 40.

September 11: Minot: 41 – 59.

September 13: Minot: 60 – 77.

September 18: Minot: 78 – 85. Student short story critiques begin.

September 20: Minot: 84 – 100. Short story critiques continue.

September 25: Minot: 143 – 144. Critiques continue.

September 27: Minot: 166 – 169. Critiques continue.

PART II: DRAMA

October 2: “The Lone Star League.” (A hand-out)

October 4: Seeing “The Lone Star League” at the Apollo Theater.

October 9: Class critique of “The Lone Star League.”

October 11: Minot: 328 – 346.

October 16: Minot: 347 – 363.

October 18: Minot: 364 – 378.

October 23: Class critique of student one-act plays.

October 25: Continue to critique one-acts.

October 30: Continue critiques.

November 1: Continue critiques.

PART III: POETRY

November 6: Minot: 187 – 197.

November 8: Minot: 236 – 249.

November 13: Minot: 280 – 290. Class critique of student poems.

November 15: Minot: 291 – 299. Continue class critique of student poems.

November 20 & 22: Thanksgiving break.

November 27: Minot: 300 – 308. Continue to critique poems.

November 29: Continue to critique poems.

December 4: Continue to critique poems.

December 6: Continue to critique poems.

December 11 & 13: Although there is no final exam in this course, these regular class times and dates are reserved for course evaluation and any unfinished business.

PROGRAM ASSESSMENT: The faculty members of CTC Shepherd are dedicated to assuring that each student meets the educational objectives of the program. The educational objectives have been developed and are planned to assure that the program is producing graduates who will be successful in obtaining and maintaining positions in the entry-level business field and who will be quality employees. To achieve this goal, the faculty is committed to a systematic and comprehensive process of assessment of student learning. As part of this program assessment, students will from time to time asked to participate in non-graded assessment activities which may include, but are not be limited to, participation in role-playing simulations and completion of standardized written or practical examinations or pre and post graduation surveys.

-- The last day to withdraw from this course is Friday, November 9.

-- Check BRCTC website for cancellations due to inclement weather.

-- This syllabus may be altered at any time at the discretion of the instructor.