

El Paso Community College
Syllabus
Part II
Official Course Description

SUBJECT AREA	<u>English</u>
COURSE RUBRIC AND NUMBER	<u>ENGL 2307</u>
COURSE TITLE	<u>Creative Writing: Theory and Technique</u>
COURSE CREDIT HOURS	<u>3 3 : 0</u> Credits Lec Lab

I. Catalog Description

Introduces creative writing, with emphasis on current poetry, fiction, drama, and/or literary non-fiction. Students will analyze and understand the use of structure and technique in order to compose imaginative texts. Reading and writing assignments in each genre will challenge students to gain working knowledge of fundamental elements such as free writing, visualization, journal writing, prosody, concrete versus abstract language, imagery, character development, dialogue and narration. Poems, literary essays, and short stories will be peer critiqued and revised in workshop format. **Prerequisite: ENGL 1301 with a "C" or better. (3:0).**

II. Course Objectives:

Upon satisfactory completion of this course the student will be able to:

- A. Workshop each other's novel excerpts, short stories, literary essays, and/or poems.
- B. Present professional manuscripts that are double-spaced on one side of white 8 1/2- by-11-inch paper, with standard margins, in clear copies, proofread for grammar, spelling and punctuation.
- C. Experiment with the writing process in order to discover techniques, strategies, and writing exercises that will get the work started and keep the writing progressing.
- D. Appreciate form, plot, and structure as they relate to conflict, crisis and resolution.
- E. Explore techniques that make narrative vivid, moving, and resonant by focusing on significant details, filtering, the active voice, prose rhythm, and mechanics.
- F. Present both credible characters that possess a sense of purpose and the complexity to change.
- G. Create settings and atmospheres that entice readers into the story.
- H. Analyze point of view in order to control the perspective of the work.
- I. Employ literary devices such as metaphor, simile, and allegory to produce a belief in the reality of the work.
- J. Understand how fictional elements contribute to theme.

- K. Collaborate with revisions in order to go beyond the inventive process and to see creative writing as work in progress.
- L. Analyze reading assignments for discussion and reader-responses as methods for invention.
- M. Submit at least two poems, one short story, or one literary essay to the college literary magazine or the college's literary writing contest (when these opportunities are available).

III. Evaluation

A. Pre-assessment:

On the first week of class, Instructors should check each student's prerequisites; those who do not qualify should be sent back to admissions.

B. Post-assessment

1. Instructors will maintain continuous records of each student's progress.
2. Students should be evaluated periodically throughout the semester.
3. Instructors will determine the weight of each graded assignment.
4. Instructors will require writing assignments other than quizzes and formal exams.
5. Plagiarism is both intellectual theft and academic dishonesty and will not be tolerated. Any work that is plagiarized could result in failure of the course. See the Student Handbook.

C. Remediation is left to the discretion of individual instructors. In creative writing courses, remediation is done during workshops; therefore, students are expected to focus on revision and editing more so than invention. Instructors may employ the portfolio method of evaluation as well as other creative methods, such as submission of student writings to literary magazines and competitions.

D. Grading Scale

A	=	90-100	I	=	Incomplete
B	=	80-89	W	=	Withdrew or Withdrawn
C	=	79-70			
D	=	60-69			
F	=	below 60			

IV. Disability Statement (Americans with Disabilities Act [ADA])

EPCC offers a variety of services to persons with documented sensory, mental, physical, or temporary disabling conditions to promote success in classes. If you have a disability and believe you may need services, you are encouraged to contact the Center for Students with Disabilities to discuss your needs with a counselor. All discussions and documentation are kept confidential. Offices located: VV Rm C-112 (831-2426); TM Rm 1400 (831-5808); RG Rm B-201 (831-4198); NWC Rm M-54 (831-8815); and MDP Rm A-125 (831-7024).

V. 6 Drop Rule

Students who began attending Texas public institutions of higher education for the first time during the Fall 2007 semester or later are subject to a 6-Drop limit for all undergraduate classes. Developmental, ESL, Dual Credit and Early College High School classes are exempt from this rule. All students should consult with their instructor before dropping a class. Academic assistance is available. Students are encouraged to

see Counseling Services if dropping because exemptions may apply. Refer to the EPCC catalog and website for additional information.

VI. Title IX and Sex Discrimination

Title 9 (20 U.S.C. 1681 & 34 C.F.R. Part 106) states the following "No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any educational program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance." The Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) prohibits stalking, date violence, sexual violence, and domestic violence for all students, employees and visitors (male and female). If you have any concerns related to discrimination, harassment, or assault (of any type) you can contact the Assistant to the Vice President for Student and Enrollment Services at 915-831-2655. Employees can call the Manager of Employee Relations at 915-831-6458. Reports of sexual assault/violence may also be reported to EPCC Police at 915-831-2200.