



NORTHEAST IOWA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Northeast Iowa Community College provides in-demand education and training focused on improving lives, driving business success and advancing community vitality.

ENG 221 94101 Creative Writing

Spring 2021

Delivery Method:

- Online

Meet Days/Times/Location:

- Online; ONL

The link to connect virtually to the course can be found within Brightspace, in Course Content, under Class Meeting.

Start and End Dates:

- 1/12/2021 - 5/10/2021

Academic Department: Liberal Arts, Science and Business

Final: The final date and time will be announced later in the semester. Faculty members may choose to give an exam or incorporate a project/presentation as a final. If a final exam is not given, class is still held at the scheduled final exam time to complete the required goals and objectives of the course and meet the scheduled required hours.

Required Materials

We will be using online materials only, which I will upload to Brightspace

Course Information

Course Description: Studies the craft of writing both through practicing various writing techniques and through reading and discussing examples of works by prominent writers. Students read and critique each other's original work and compile a portfolio of their stories and poems.

Major Course Objective:

Students will learn to appreciate the craft of good writing. They will polish their own writing skills and expand their repertoire of writing techniques. By critiquing their own work as well as other students' work, they will develop critical evaluation skills and literary standards based on artistic merit rather than personal taste.

Primary Common Learning Outcome Assessed: Communicate Effectively

Educational Learning Outcomes:

- Writing Creatively
- Writing Fiction
- Writing Poetry
- Writing Drama

Prerequisite(s): A minimum grade of C- in ENG 105 or equivalent college-level courses in composition with a minimum grade of C-

Grading Procedures and Scale

| Grade | Grading Scale by Percent of Total Points <i>Ex. (94 - 100%)</i> | Grading Scale by Points <i>Ex. (940 - 1000+)</i> |
|-------|--|---|
| A | 94-100 | 470-500 |
| A- | 90-93 | 450-469 |
| B+ | 87-89 | 435-449 |
| B | 84-86 | 420-434 |
| B- | 80-83 | 400-419 |
| C+ | 77-79 | 385-399 |
| C | 74-76 | 370-384 |
| | | |

| | | |
|--------------|-------|---------|
| C- (or P) | 70-73 | 350-369 |
| D+ | 67-69 | 335-349 |
| D | 64-66 | 320-334 |
| D- | 60-63 | 300-319 |
| F (or NP) | 59 | 299 |

| | # of Assignments | Points / Percentage |
|------------------------------|------------------|---------------------|
| Discussion Posts | Weekly | 150-200 |
| Poems | 4 | 100 |
| Short Stories/Papers | 4 | 200 |
| Total Points possible | | up to 500 |

Course Calendar

Weekly Schedule

WEEK ONE 1/12-1/17

Read

- 1) Syllabus and Course Expectations.
- 2) Terry Tempest Williams "Why I Write" Brightspace
- 3) Billy Collins "Introduction to Poetry" Brightspace
- 4) Tony Hoagland "A Color of the Sky" Brightspace
- 5) Denton Loving "Riding Lawn Mower" Brightspace
- 6) Erica Anderson-Senter's Poems (two total) Brightspace

Write (all writings due by Sunday, January 17)

- 1) Why I Write essay (instructions on Brightspace)
- 2) Complete all Discussion Board posts

Anybody who has survived his childhood has enough information about life to last him the rest of his days. –Flannery O’Connor

WEEK TWO 1/18-1/24

Read

- 1) Poetry Overview Brightspace
- 2) Stafford Poem (at the end of Poetry Overview PDF) Brightspace
- 3) Oles Poem (at the end of Poetry Overview PDF) Brightspace
- 4) Peacock Poem (at the end of Poetry Overview PDF) Brightspace
- 5) Josh Ritter “Change of Time” on Brightspace
- 6) Maya Angelou “This Winter Day” PDF on Brightspace
- 7) Robert Wilson “On a Maine Beach” PDF on Brightspace
- 8) Clement Long “Always the One...” PDF on Brightspace

Write (draft of poems due by Sunday, January 24)

- 1) Three poems, a kind of letter/direct address, one of which addresses someone you love and the other to someone you dislike. Then write a poem using the first line in one of the poems we read for this week.
- 2) Discussion Board posts.

WEEK THREE 1/25-1/31

Workshop

1) Submit two poems to workshop. One should be a direct address, the other should be the poem that used a line from a poem we've read (by Monday, January 25)

Read

- 1) Joy Harjo "She Had Some Horses" PDF Brightspace
- 2) Donald Hall "Names of Horses" PDF Brightspace

Write (all assignments due by Sunday, January 31)

- 1) Write a first draft of a poem with a focus on the senses/details.
- 2) Discussion Board posts.
- 3) Final draft of two poems from previous week.

We tell ourselves stories in order to live. —Joan Didion

WEEK FOUR 2/1-2/7

Workshop

- 1) Submit "senses" poem to workshop (by Monday, Feb 1)

Read

- 1) Eli Burrell's poems (two total) on Brightspace
- 2) Emily Mohn Slate's poems (three total) on Brightspace
- 3) Joe Wilkins's poems (four total) on Brightspace
- 4) Cassie Pruyn's poems (five total) on Brightspace

Write (assignments due on Sunday, February 7)

- 1) Write a poem based on Joe Wilkins's "Manifesto"
- 2) Write a one-page reaction to the series of poems by Cassie Pruyn (instructions on Brightspace)
- 3) Final draft of "senses" poem
- 4) Discussion Board posts

WEEK FIVE 2/8-2/14

Workshop

- 1) Submit your own "Manifesto" poem to workshop (by Monday, February 8)

Read

- 1) Andrew Porter "Hole" (Brightspace)
- 2) Jamaica Kincaid "Girl" (Brightspace)
- 3) Bret Anthony Johnston "Boy" (Brightspace)
- 4) Donald Barthleme "The School" (Brightspace)
- 5) Fiction Overview PDF (Brightspace)

Write (assignments due Sunday, Feb 14)

- 1) Discussion Board posts

Nothing is as important as a likable narrator. Nothing holds a story together better. –Ethan Canin

WEEK SIX 2/15-2/21

Read

- 1) John Cheever "Reunion" (Brightspace)

- 2) Elizabeth Tallent “No One’s a Mystery” (Brightspace)
- 3) George Saunders “Sticks” (Brightspace)
- 4) Libby Flores “Two Tons of Manure” (Brightspace)

Write (assignments due Sunday, Feb 25)

- 1) Discussion Board posts

WEEK SEVEN 2/22-2/28

Read

- 1) Megan Mayhew Bergman “Birds of a Lesser Paradise” (Narrative)
- 2) Nickolas Butler “Underneath the Bonfire” (Narrative)
- 3) Andrew Porter “The Cello” (Narrative)

Write (assignments due Sunday, Feb 28)

- 1) Discussion Board posts
- 2) Start drafting a story for workshop (no need to turn in your already started draft)

WEEK EIGHT 3/1-3/7

Read

- 1) Joann Beard “Fourth State of Matter (Brightspace)
- 2) April Darcy “Free Fall” (Brightspace)
- 3) Emma Copley Eisenberg “Forty-Four Thousand Pounds (Bright)

Write (assignments due Sunday, March 14)

- 1) First draft of a short story (see instructions on Brightspace)
- 2) Discussion Board posts

3/8-3/14 Spring Break. Be safe, have fun, read a book.

WEEK NINE 3/15-3/21

Workshop

- 1) Submit draft of short story to workshop (by Monday, March 15)

Read

- 1) Nickolas Butler "Apples" (Brightspace)
- 2) Ann Cummins "Red Ant House" (Brightspace)
- 3) Geoff Dyer "White Sands" (Brightspace)

Write (assignments due by Sunday, March 21)

- 1) Finish short story
- 2) Discussion Board posts

WEEK TEN 3/22-3/28

Read

- 1) Close reading exercise (info on Brightspace). Choose three short stories from the list of online sources I've provided and read each.

Write

- 1) Start a draft of another short story, told in a different POV than the first one.

2) Close reading exercise/post (instructions on Brightspace)

3) Discussion Board posts

Get in, get out. Don't linger. Go on. –Raymond Carver

I made a wasteland out of everything I touched. –Raymond Carver

That's all we have, finally, the words, and they had better be the right ones. –Raymond Carver

WEEK ELEVEN 3/29-4/4

Read

1) Denton Loving “Liars” (Brightspace)

2) John Steinbeck “Chrysanthemums” (Brightspace)

Write (assignments due Sunday, April 4)

1) Continue work on short story

2) Discussions Board posts

WEEK TWELVE 4/5-4/11

Read

Online Journal Reading Assignment

Write

1) Online Journal response (due Sunday, April 11)

Remove everything that has no relevance to the story. If you say in the first chapter that there is a rifle hanging on the wall, in the second or third chapter it absolutely must go off. If it's not going to be fired,

it shouldn't be hanging there. –Anton Chekov

WEEK THIRTEEN 4/12-4/18

Workshop

- 1) Submit draft of second short story (by Monday, April 12)

Read

- 1) TBD

Write (assignments due Sunday, April 18)

- 1) Finish second short story

WEEK FOURTEEN 4/19-4/25

Read

- 1) Mini-Play

Write (due by Sunday, April 25)

- 1) Write your own Mini-Play
- 2) Discussion Posts

WEEK FIFTEEN 4/26-5/2

Workshop

- 1) Submit draft of Mini-Play (by Monday, April 26)

Write

- 1) Finish Mini-Play and turn in by May 2

5/3-5/9 Final week assignments:

- 1) Rereading Exercises
- 2) Class Eval
- 3) Personal Reflection
- 4) Revise work

Student Course Feedback

Prior to course completion you will receive an email providing a link to share your feedback. You are EXPECTED to complete the feedback form for each class.

Assessment

Northeast Iowa Community College is an institution dedicated to continuous instructional improvement as part of our assessment efforts. It is necessary for us to collect and analyze course level data. Data drawn from student work for the purposes of institutional assessment will be posted in aggregate and will not identify individual students. Your continued support in our ongoing effort to provide quality instructional services at NICC is appreciated.

Course Policies

Attendance/Academic Engagement

(See College Handbook for more details) Regular attendance is expected. A strong relationship exists between success in college and class attendance. Absence in class interferes with the learning process and may lead to academic failure. Students should confer with the instructor immediately following an absence. When there is advance knowledge of an absence, students should discuss this with the instructor prior to the absence.

If you find that you have any trouble keeping up with assignments or other aspects of the course, make sure you let your instructor know as early as possible. As you will find, building rapport and effective relationships are key to becoming an effective professional. Make sure that you are proactive

in informing your instructor when difficulties arise during the semester so that we can help you find a solution.

Academic Dishonesty

Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated in any course at NICC. Plagiarism and other forms of cheating are examples of such dishonesty and are subject to review and possible sanctions as outlined in the NICC Student Conduct Code. For a detailed explanation of plagiarism, please visit the Plagiarism Lib Guide at <https://library.nicc.edu/citingsources>.

Late Work

I do not accept late work. Communicate with me prior to the due date should there be any issues around completing assignments.

Missing Assignments

See above (Late Work). Missing assignments or late work result in a zero.

Makeup Testing

N/A

Classroom Conduct

As a student in this course (and at this College) you are expected to maintain a high degree of professionalism, commitment to active learning and participation in this class; and also integrity in your behavior in and out of the classroom in which the rights, dignity, worth, and freedom of all members of the class are respected. Please refer to the College Catalog for detailed information on the Student Conduct Code.

Additional Information

Class Continuation during Campus or Center Closing

Instructional continuity is critical to the College mission and to your success in this class. As such, should a campus or center close due to weather or unforeseen circumstances, please check your

Brightspace class for specific instructions and expectations from your instructor due to the campus closure.

Classes will not be canceled, and students will be expected to continue to engage in this class remotely until such a time as classes can return to normal.

For notification on campus closures, please refer to the following:

<https://www.nicc.edu/about/consumer-information/emergency-response-and-procedure/>

Campus Emergencies

In the event of a campus emergency, an alarm will sound or an appropriate announcement will be made. An emergency response guide, building evacuation routes and severe weather shelter areas are posted in each room. Safety drills are held on a regular basis. For more information, visit [campus emergencies](#) in the college catalog.

Learning Center

The NICC Learning Centers provide tutoring assistance free of charge to any student in person Monday through Friday or virtually online with our online tutoring service 24/7 with [Upswing](#). Students are encouraged to utilize the Learning Centers in Calmar, Peosta or Dubuque.

Access

Take advantage of the *ReadSpeaker Listen Button* to enhance understanding and comprehension of the materials in this and any syllabus within the content area. All of the materials posted in the content area of NICC Brightspace classrooms have a *Listen Button* to have the text highlighted and read for you. Listening to text read aloud is shown to improve reading comprehension.

<https://ws.readspeaker.com/a/wasp/app/8>

ReadSpeaker for Brightspace by D2L



Course Copyright

All course materials students receive or to which students have online access are protected by copyright laws. Students may use course materials and make copies for their own use as needed, but unauthorized distribution and/or uploading of materials without the instructor's express written permission is strictly prohibited. Students who engage in the unauthorized distribution of copyrighted

materials may be held in violation of the College's Code of Conduct, and/or liable under Federal and State laws.

Netiquette

The term "Netiquette" refers to the etiquette guidelines for electronic communications, such as e-mail and bulletin board postings. Netiquette covers not only rules to maintain civility in discussions, but also special guidelines unique to the electronic nature of forum messages.

Accommodation Policy

In accordance with the Americans with Disability Act, NICC ensures the accessibility of its programs, classes, and services to students with disabilities. For any questions or to apply for disability services please contact the Disability Services Office to set up an appointment, or visit the Disability Services website at: <https://www.nicc.edu/academic-support/disability-services/accommodations/> for additional information. Any student eligible for and needing academic accommodations because of a disability is requested to speak with their instructor.

Anna Stamat, MS, NCG (Calmar)
Disability Services Coordinator
844.642.2338 ext. 1258
stamata@nicc.edu

Adam Green (Peosta)
Disability Services Coordinator
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Statement of Non-Discrimination

It is the policy of Northeast Iowa Community College not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age (employment), sexual orientation, gender identity, creed, religion, and actual or potential parental, family or marital status in its programs, activities, or employment practices as required by federal and state civil rights regulations. If you have questions, concerns or to read the full policy at: <https://www.nicc.edu/about/nondiscrimination-policy/>.

Title IX: Confidentiality and Responsible Employee Statement

Northeast Iowa Community College faculty are committed to helping create a safe and open learning environment for all students. If you (or someone you know) have experienced any form of sexual misconduct, including sexual assault, dating or domestic violence, or stalking, know that help and support are available. The College strongly encourages all members of the community to take action, seek support and report incidents of sexual misconduct to the Title IX Office. Please be aware that

under Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, I am required to disclose information about such misconduct to the Title IX Office.

If you wish to speak to a confidential employee who does not have this reporting responsibility, you can contact one of NICC's Counselors (Calmar Campus 844.642.2338, ext. 1378 / Peosta Campus 844.642.2338, ext. 2215). For more information about reporting options and resources visit [Sexual Respect and Title IX](#).

Disclaimer

This syllabus, along with course assignments and due dates, are subject to change. It is the student's responsibility to check the Learning Management System (Currently Brightspace) for corrections or updates to the syllabus. Any changes will be clearly noted by your instructor or listed in the course announcements or through NICC email.