Creative Writing—Writers' Workshop Courses (English) (CW)

This is a list of creative writing courses. For more information, see English and Creative Writing (Iowa Writers' Workshop).

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CW:1200 Creative Writing for Non-Native English Speakers
- Designed to help non-native English speakers who would like to learn more about creative writing; guided readings and creative writing exercises in fiction, poetry, and creative nonfiction, with special emphasis on the interests of writers from diverse backgrounds; creative writing as a means of self-expression, while improving writing and speaking skills in a friendly, supportive environment.

CW:1800 Creative Writing Studio Workshop
- Experience reading and writing fiction, poetry, and personal narrative in a workshop setting; study of published work and critical discussion from a writer’s standpoint; critique of class members’ work. GE: Literary, Visual, and Performing Arts.

CW:2100 Creative Writing
- Guidance in the process of writing fiction and poetry; writing as exploration; development of students’ critical skills as readers; application of new knowledge and skills to students’ own writing. English majors may apply this course to the following area and/or period requirement. AREA: Nonfiction and Creative Writing. GE: Engineering Be Creative.

CW:2870 Fiction Writing
- Analysis of works of accomplished fiction writers; critique of class members’ short stories, in writing and in class; discussion of how class members use language, characterization, point of view, other elements of fiction in their work. English majors may apply this course to the following area and/or period requirement. AREA: Nonfiction and Creative Writing. GE: Engineering Be Creative.

CW:2875 Poetry Writing
- Careful writing of poems, reading of poetry by class members as well as established poets; supportive workshop context. English majors may apply this course to the following area and/or period requirement. AREA: Nonfiction and Creative Writing. GE: Engineering Be Creative.

CW:3002 Writing and Reading Young Adult Fiction
- Constraints and parameters in which young adult fiction is created and a useful lens through which to explore the layers of craft and technique that underlie all great creative writing; opportunity for students to hone their understanding of genre, explore specific craft techniques, and develop a broader understanding of the fiction landscape.

CW:3003 Writing and Reading Science Fiction
- Science fiction literature as an ongoing conversation about the possible; exploration of world boundaries we have by imagining worlds that we don't (yet); alien encounters that consider ways we react to beings we see as unlike ourselves; alternate histories to illuminate what might have been; transhumanist fiction to explore what we may become; issues of composition and craft that underlie all effective fiction; students write and revise works of science fiction and engage in constructive discussion of each other's work. GE: Engineering Be Creative.

CW:3004 Writing and Reading Fantasy Fiction
- Exploration of rules and boundaries of fantasy writing; interrogation of strategies and approaches that make writing fantasy distinct from other genres of fiction.

CW:3005 Professional and Creative Business Communication
- Solid foundation for creative and professional communication in today's modern work world; exploration of techniques, strategies, and craft of writing résumés, letters of interest, email and its related etiquette, and organization of ideas into presentable form; semester-long creative project that builds a bridge between office and the world using modern technology and social media; readings and discussions of literature to better understand issues of ethics, leadership, conflict, moral judgment, decision making, and human nature; how to navigate and succeed in business or any professional field. GE: Engineering Be Creative. Same as INTD:3005, WRIT:3005.

CW:3107 Creative Writing for the Health Professions
- How humans tether to their environment through stories; students write stories and through writing explore if there is a new tie to sustainable history. GE: Engineering Be Creative. Same as INTD:3210.

CW:3210 Creative Writing and the Natural World
- How humans tether to their environment through stories; students write stories and through writing explore if there is a new tie to sustainable history. GE: Engineering Be Creative. Same as INTD:3210.

CW:3215 Creative Writing and Popular Culture
- Creative writing through the lens of popular culture; topics include television, film writing, adaptations, commercials, advertising, magazines, newspapers, comic books, song lyrics, billboards, and backs of cereal boxes. GE: Engineering Be Creative. Same as INTD:3300.

CW:3218 Creative Writing for New Media
- Prepares creative writers for evolving marketplace of electronic text and media; experience writing in varied media (e.g., internet, e-books, video games, mobile devices, emergent social narratives). GE: Engineering Be Creative. Same as INTD:3300.

CW:3870 Advanced Fiction Writing
- Analysis of accomplished fiction writers' work; critique of class members' short stories, in writing and in class; discussion of how class members use language, characterization, point of view, other elements of fiction in their work. English majors may apply this course to the following area and/or period requirement. AREA: Nonfiction and Creative Writing. Prerequisites: CW:2870.

CW:3875 Advanced Poetry Writing
- Writing poems, reading poetry by class members and established poets; workshop context. English majors may apply this course to the following area and/or period requirement. AREA: Nonfiction and Creative Writing. Prerequisites: CW:2875.
The Sentence: Strategies for Writing 3 s.h.
Writing dynamic, cogent, and grammatically correct sentences; effectively communicating ideas; writing with clarity and confidence; review of grammar and various types of sentences; building complexity by adding adverbial, subordinate, and connective clauses to simple sentences; how rhythm, syntax, and word order expand the meaning of a sentence; application and appreciation. GE: Engineering Be Creative. Same as WRIT:4745.

Writing and Activism 3 s.h.
Exploration of writing as a political act; examination of texts that focus on activism (e.g., environment, social inequality, racism, war); best practices for literary advocacy and social/political persuasion/instruction; improving dexterity with written persuasion; argumentation, and personal statements; application of study of writing to broader world.

Creative Writing for the Musician 3 s.h.
Better writing by focused appreciation of classical and popular music; musical forms and storytelling; music as a source of inspiration, performance of free-form writing exercises set to different soundtracks; what music can teach about language; scansion; methods for applying musical techniques in word form; how punctuation and grammar create rhythm; tone and diction used to create and modify dynamics of prose; multimedia project incorporating written, visual, and audio storytelling techniques. GE: Engineering Be Creative.

The Art of Revision: Rewriting Prose for Clarity and Impact 3 s.h.
Writing and rewriting of short stories and essays; specific choices to help writing reach its full potential; examination of first drafts and making strategic or radical decisions on what needs to happen in subsequent drafts in order for writing to better match original intentions; students gain insight from peers on where first drafts are succeeding or falling short, and write second and third drafts of short stories and personal narratives; structural and aesthetic choices. GE: Engineering Be Creative.

Graduate Fiction Writing 3 s.h.
Reading and discussion of published stories and those written by class members, with the aim of improving writing through careful reading and reflection, spirited discussion, and written comments.

Graduate Poetry Writing 3 s.h.
Careful writing and reading of poems by students as well as by established poets; thorough discussion in a supportive context.

Undergraduate Writers' Workshop: Fiction 3 s.h.
English majors may apply this course to the following area and/or period requirement. AREA: Nonfiction and Creative Writing.

Undergraduate Writers' Workshop: Poetry 3 s.h.
English majors may apply this course to the following area and/or period requirement. AREA: Nonfiction and Creative Writing.

Teaching Assistant Pedagogy Colloquium 1-2 s.h.
Training and support for graduate students in the Creative Writing Program. Corequisites: CW:7870 or CW:7875. Requirements: enrollment in creative writing graduate program.

Graduate Project in Creative Writing arr.

M.F.A. Thesis arr.