

COMMON COURSE OUTLINE

ENGL 209

Creative Writing

3 Semester hours

The Community College of Baltimore County

Description

Workshop in Creative Writing

Intended for students interested in writing poetry and/or short fiction; offers instruction and practice in the creation of imaginative structures; writing forms include poems, short stories, and brief dramas.

Prerequisite: ENGL 101 or permission of the instructor

Overall Course Objectives

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

1. develop and implement a personal writing style that is the basis of all creative writing;
2. understand the stylistic differences between academic writing and creative writing;
3. create texts using the improvisational writing process;
4. apply a variety of strategies for revising texts (language texture, character development, scene construction);
5. work collaboratively with peers to critique student poetry and prose;
6. develop critical editing and proofreading skills to create polished creative texts.
7. identify the forms poems often take (sonnet, sestina, haiku, etc.);
8. identify the basic format short fiction often takes (initial conflict, complication, climax, resolution)
9. identify the basic elements of all creative writing (metaphor, paradox, symbol, hyperbole, imagery, etc.).
10. identify the structural and stylistic accomplishments of recognized schools of creative writing (Imagism, Symbolism, Realism, Surrealism, etc.)

Major Topics

- definition of figurative language
- characteristics of poetic and prose fiction
- writing as a recursive process
- revision
- proofreading/polishing texts

Course Requirements

Individual writing projects will be determined by the instructor and will be described in the syllabus for each section. However, all students will:

1. participate in class activities;
2. create at least four writing projects, each of which employs a different creative strategy (i.e., plot emphasis, character emphasis, language emphasis, etc.)

Other Course Information

The final grade will be based on the students' writing, graded either cumulatively or in an end-of-course portfolio.