

Carleton University
Winter 2024 Preliminary Course Outline
Department of English

ENGL 1500B: Introduction to Creative Writing

Lecture: Mondays 11:35-12:55
Workshop: Mondays 1:05-2:25pm OR Mondays 2:35-3:55pm
Format: In-person, not suitable for online students

Instructor: Nadia Bozak
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Course Description:

This course is designed for students of any academic discipline or level who have an interest in creative writing. Students who have experience writing on their own, in workshops, or in courses such as Writers Craft are just as welcome in this course as students who have never written creatively but are curious to try it out. Over the semester students will engage with exemplary texts by published writers in such genres as short story, creative nonfiction, and poetry. Students will also write prompts in these genres and workshop them weekly with a small peer-editing group.

The weekly schedule is divided into:

- A lecture/discussion with the instructor on weekly topics
- Assigned readings on weekly topics
- Assigned writing prompts and reflections submitted for grading
- A workshop (led by a tutorial assistant or the instructor, wherein students write, share, respond to, discuss and revise assigned prompts and complete in-class writing exercises)

Learning outcomes:

By the end of this course, students should be able to:

1. Produce polished creative-writing pieces in multiple genres (poetry, short story, creative nonfiction).
2. Engage with literary texts as writers and speak about these same texts as writers (rather than as readers or scholars).
3. Discuss writing effectively, employing key terms such as “voice” and “character” for fiction, “image” and “rhythm” for poetry.

4. Revise their own creative work and respectfully and constructively comment upon the creative work of their peers.

Required texts:

Each week we will read creative writing and/or an essay on the weekly topic(s). These readings are available on ARES (a digital repository of class readings made available through MacOdrum library). Using Brightspace, students will access Ares, download and read the assigned readings, and be prepared to discuss the readings during lectures, workshops, and/or comment on the readings in the reflection statements that accompany prompts.

Course Requirements (tentative):

1. **Writing Prompts and Reflection Statements = 4 x 10% each = 40%**
2. **Final Assignment and Reflection = 20%**
3. **Workshop Participation = 15%**
4. **Attend and review a literary event = 15%**
5. **In-class Writing Journal = 10%**