

Welcome to English 111! In this introductory course, we'll explore a sampling of three principal domains of creative writing: poetry, creative nonfiction, and fiction. Through reading, listening, presenting, discussing, and, of course, writing, we'll learn the expectations, functions, and conventions of each form. With this, we'll develop concrete skills for improving our writing (and reading) across genres.

The readings for this course will be assigned with both your interests and the scope of the course in mind. For these purposes, shorter readings will make up the bulk of our reading list. That said, deep reading is expected to gain the deepest possible understanding of craft that can be applied to your own writing, and I expect all readings to be completed prior to each class period. No matter how much experience you have with creative writing, you'll have the chance to learn and experiment with new things.

Creating a productive, supportive community of writers and readers is necessary and sometimes challenging. It is normal for tastes, experiences, ambitions, and styles to differ, so we'll approach the class with respect and openness. In addition to our own writing, in this course, we'll learn how to craft kind, useful feedback both in written and verbal forms.

I am so excited to meet you all and learn your stories.