

RANGER COLLEGE  
Creative Writing Syllabus  
Fall 2010

**COURSE NUMBER AND TITLE:** Creative Writing 2307

**CREDIT HOURS:** 3 HRS/WK LEC: 3 HRS/WK LAB: 0

LEC/LAB/HRS/WK COMBINATION: 3

**Name of Instructor:** Dr. Bill Campion **Office Location:** Administration Building

**Office Hours:** Monday-Thursday 1 pm to 5 pm and Friday 9 am to 12 pm

**Office Phone:** 254-647-3234 ext 222

**College E-Mail:** bcampion@rangercollege.edu

### **I. CATALOG DESCRIPTION**

Practical experience in the techniques of imaginative writing. May include fiction, nonfiction, poetry, screenwriting, drama or oral histories.

### **II. REQUIRED BACKGROUND/PREREQUISITES**

This course requires a passing score on the THEA or equivalent test, English 1301 and 1302 and/or Instructor permission.

### **III. TEXTBOOK (S); READINGS; MATERIALS**

The Oral Histories Manual by Barbara W. Sommer and Mary Kay Quinlan, Second Edition; Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, Inc.

Imaginative Writing: The Elements of Craft by Janet Burroway, Third Edition; Longman Publishers

### **IV. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION**

Lecture, discussion, audio-visual materials, etc.

### **V. EXEMPLARY EDUCATIONAL OBJECTIVES (Communication)**

1. To understand and demonstrate writing and speaking processes through invention, organization, drafting, revision, editing, and presentation.
2. To understand the importance of specifying audience and purpose and to select appropriate communication choices.
3. To understand and appropriately apply modes of expression, i.e., descriptive, expository, narrative, scientific, and self-expressive, in written, visual, and oral communication.
4. To participate effectively in groups with emphasis on listening, crucial and reflective thinking, and responding.
5. To understand and apply basic principles of critical thinking, problem solving, and technical proficiency in the development of exposition and argument.
6. To develop the ability to research and write a documented paper and/or to give an oral presentation.

### **VI. BASIC INTELLECTUAL COMPETENCIES**

B1: To analyze and interpret a variety of printed materials at college level.

B2: To produce clear, correct and coherent prose adapted to the purpose of the class including correct spelling, grammar and punctuation; and developing and organizing topics.

B3: To communicate orally in clear, coherent, and persuasive language appropriate to the purpose, occasion and audience.

B4: To analyze and interpret various forms of spoken communication.

B5: To apply both qualitative and quantitative skills analytically and creatively to subject matter in order to evaluate arguments and construct alternative strategies.

## VII. COURSE OBJECTIVES

1. Students will explore and become familiar with various genres of both fiction and nonfiction. (B1) (B4) (B5) (C4) (C5)
2. Students will understand terms and demonstrate use in writing. (B1) (B3) (C3) (C5)
3. Students will practice and learn methods of collecting oral histories. (B1) (B3) (B4) (C2)
4. Students will present oral histories in a written format following latest AMA guidelines. (B1) (B2) (B3) (B4) (C1)
5. Students will understand and practice the writing process through multiple experiments with language and the refining of a completed writing product. (B2) (B5) (C1) (C2) (C3) (C6)

## VIII. COURSE CALENDAR

### Tentative Schedule for Creative Writing Class

#### Week 1

- Monday
  - Welcome to course
  - The writing rules
  - Overview of projects
  - Assignment: A Giant in Their Lives by William J. Champion
- Wednesday
  - Discuss assignment
  - To be verbs
  - Begin discussion of image and significant details
  - Assignment: “Cancer victim...”

#### Week 2

- Monday
  - Discuss assignments
  - To be verbs
  - Continue discussion of image and significant details
  - Assignment: “What I learned” page 26 in Creative Text
- Wednesday
  - Discuss assignments
  - To be verbs (possible quiz)
  - Begin discussion of Voice
    - Active Voice/ Passive Voice
  - Assignment: Noble Blue

#### Week 3

- Monday
  - Labor Day Holiday – No class
- Wednesday
  - Discuss assignments
  - Continue discussion of voice
  - Assignment: “Beauty: When the Other Dancer is the Self” page 61

#### Week 4

- Monday
  - Discuss assignments
  - Begin discussion: Point of View
  - Assignment: Narrative by Josepha Sherman
- Wednesday
  - Discuss assignments
  - Continue discussion of point of view
  - Assignment: Narrative by Kathleen Clark

#### Week 5

- Monday
  - Discuss assignments
  - Begin discussion of Person
  - Assignment: “Guns for Teachers”
- Wednesday
  - Discuss assignments
  - Continue discussion of person
  - Assignment: “U.T Southwestern...”

#### Week 6

- Monday
  - Discuss assignments
  - Begin discussion of number
  - Assignment: “The Unforgettable Mr. Flop” by William J. Campion
- Wednesday
  - Discuss assignments
  - Continue discussion of number
  - Assignment: “Quiet Man...”

#### Week 7

- Monday
  - Discuss assignments
  - Begin discussion of character
  - Assignment “JohnJohn’s World” page 107
- Wednesday
  - Discuss assignments
  - Continue discussion of character
  - Assignment: “Texas teen...”

#### Week 8

- Monday
  - Discuss assignments
  - Begin discussion of setting
    - As a camera, mood & symbol, etc.
  - Assignment: “The weekend that defined loss”

- Wednesday
  - Discuss assignments
  - Continue discussion of setting
  - Assignment: 100 year celebration

#### Week 9

- Monday
  - Discuss assignments
  - Begin discussion of story
  - Assignment: “An Encounter”
- Wednesday
  - Discuss assignments
  - Continue discussion of story
  - Assignment: “Red Sky in the Morning” pg 176

#### Week 10

- Monday
  - Discuss assignments
  - Begin discussion on Development and Revision
  - Assignment: “Anatomy of Disorder” by Patty Seyburn pg 214 in Creative Writing
- Wednesday
  - Discuss assignments
  - Continue discussion on Development and Revision
  - Assignment: “The Brooks Dozier Story” by William J. Campion

#### Week 11

- Monday
  - Discuss assignments
  - Begin discussion on Oral History
  - Discuss Oral History Project
  - Assignment: The Religious World of Civil War Soldiers
- Wednesday
  - Discuss assignments
  - Continue discussion on Oral History
  - Assignment: “Women’s Museum...”

#### Week 12

- Monday
  - Discuss assignments
  - Discuss interview technique
  - Assignment: “Fort Worth woman...”
- Wednesday
  - Discuss assignment
  - Discuss Scholarly writing vs. Journalistic writing
  - Assignment: “Margot’s Diary” pg 252

#### Week 13

- Monday
  - Discuss assignments
  - Continue discussion on Scholarly writing vs. Journalistic writing
  - Assignment: “Carrollton Couple...”

- Wednesday
  - Discuss assignments
  - Continue discussion on scholarly writing...
  - Assignment: “Pigs for Sale...” by William J. Campion

#### Week 14

- Monday
  - Discuss assignments
  - Begin discussion of
  - Assignment: “Jack Culberg, 79” page 256
- Wednesday
  - Discuss assignments
  - Continue discussion
  - Assignment

#### Week 15

- Final Review and Final

### IX. COURSE/CLASSROOM POLICIES

#### 1. Attendance/Lateness

Class attendance is very important as students need to experience what takes place in class. The instructor frowns on absences and each individual absence can result in a 5 point deduction from the final grade.

All students are expected to attend class regularly and on time. Lateness will not be tolerated. If you arrive after role has been checked you will be counted absent for the day.

#### 2. Class Participation

Students are expected to participate in classroom discussion, be active listeners, give freely of their experience, maintain each other’s self-esteem, keep an open mind and agree only if it makes sense to do so. Students are invited to share their opinion and open topics for discussion as they pertain to the unit studied.

#### 3. Missed Exams/Assignments/Make-Up Policy

Make-up tests will not be given unless extreme circumstances exist; causing the student to be unable to attend class, and the instructor is notified in advance (if possible).

#### 4. Academic Dishonesty

Cheating is not tolerated under any circumstances and will result in a zero for the grade, as well as other consequences as needed.

#### 5. Student Behavior Policy

Students are expected to be respectful and keep an open mind. Criticism or degrading of another student’s self esteem will not be tolerated. This classroom is a safe-zone and all students must do their part to keep it as such.

Cell phones are not allowed in class at all.

#### 6. Available Support Services:

The library is available for student use throughout the day to complete assignments.

#### 7. ADA Statement:

Ranger College provides a variety of services for students with learning and/or physical disabilities. **The student is responsible** for making the initial contact with the Ranger College Counselor. It is advisable to make this contact **before or immediately** after the semester begins.

### X. ASSESSMENT (Grading Procedure)

Grades will be calculated from 4 major projects, a midterm and final. Students must complete EVERY assignment.

Attendance is VERY IMPORTANT as students need to experience what takes place in class. The instructor frowns on absences and EACH individual absence can result in a 5 POINT DEDUCTION from the final grade.

#### **XI. NON-DISCRIMINATION STATEMENT**

Admission, employment, and program policies of Ranger College are nondiscriminatory in regard to race, creed, color, sex, age, disability, and national origin.

## **XII. RECEIPT OF SYLLABUS FORM**

**(Required** of all students and **filed** by the instructor)

**Legibly print** the following information:

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

“I have received and understand the information in the syllabus for Creative Writing 2307 and I agree to abide by the state policies.”

**Signature of Student:** \_\_\_\_\_