COMMON COURSE OUTLINE: Course discipline/number/title: ENGL 1150: Introduction to Creative Writing

A. CATALOG DESCRIPTION
1. Credits: 3
2. Hours/Week: 3
3. Prerequisites (Course discipline/number): None
4. Co-requisites (Course discipline/number): None

This course will allow students to sample the several genres of creative writing. Students will explore introductory writing techniques applicable to creative writing, and will apply these skills to a few short projects in each genre.

B. DATE LAST REVISED (Month, year): March, 2007

C. OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS:
Students will be introduced to writing techniques in several genres of creative writing, including some of the following types:
1. Autobiography
2. Memoir
3. Reflective essays
4. Various poetic forms
5. Various types of fiction
6. Script writing (film, television, theater)
7. Drama

Additionally, these kinds of activities will be employed within the genre discussions:
1. Use specific techniques for generating ideas for writing
2. Refine ideas for use in specific genres
3. Create appropriate plot structures
4. Write effective dialogue
5. Write descriptively
6. Establish an individual style and voice
7. Experiment with different types of writing within each genre
8. Revise and edit upon receiving critical evaluation
9. Provide useful and insightful feedback on others' written work

D. LEARNING OUTCOMES (GENERAL): The student will:
To improve their ability to read creative works and to write in a variety of creative genres. The overall goal of this course is to allow students to explore a variety of writing styles and to improve their writing skills and experiences beyond the basic requirements of Freshman Composition. This course also encourages students to have more creative freedom in selection of topics and themes, and in expressing themselves through their selection of form and content. Specifically:
1. Understand and demonstrate the writing process by inventing, organizing, drafting, revising, editing, and presenting original creative works.
2. Participate effectively in groups with emphasis on reading other writers' works critically and reflectively and responding orally and/or in writing to the strengths and weaknesses of the work.
3. Locate, evaluate, synthesize, and apply ideas regarding the writing of fiction, poetry, drama, and creative non-fiction from diverse sources and points of view.
4. Select appropriate and effective writing techniques to communicate specific emotions, values, and/or themes to a specific audience.
5. Construct moving, entertaining, enlightening pieces of writing.
6. Apply available options of the elements of creative writing.
7. Employ syntax and usage appropriate for the genre, character, voice, and/or style of writing.
8. Recognize and articulate the values and reasoning which underlie and effect the decisions made by others and ourselves during the process of writing and revising creative works.
9. Identify and evaluate assumptions that are the basis for both their own and others' opinions of a creative work.
10. Describe and improve their own ability to think critically about creative writing and to create and/or discover solutions to problems identified in their work.
E. LEARNING OUTCOMES (MNTC):
Goal 2/Critical Thinking: The student will be able to:
1. Gather factual information and apply it to a given problem in a manner that is relevant, clear, comprehensive, and conscious of possible bias in the information selected.
2. Imagine and seek out a variety of possible goals, assumptions, interpretations, or perspectives, which can give alternative meanings or solutions to given situations or problems.
3. Analyze the logical connections among the facts, goals, and implicit assumptions relevant to a problem or claim; generate and evaluate implications that follow from them.
4. Recognize and articulate the value assumptions, which underlie and affect decisions, interpretations, analyses, and evaluations made by ourselves and others.

Goal 6/The Humanities—the Arts, Literature, and Philosophy: The student will be able to:
1. Demonstrate awareness of the scope and variety of works in the arts and humanities.
2. Understand those works as expressions of individual and human values within a historical and social context.
3. Respond critically to works in the arts and humanities.
4. Engage in the creative process or interpretive performance.

F. METHODS FOR EVALUATION OF STUDENT LEARNING:
Evaluation methods may include any of the following:
1. Objective exams
2. Essay exams
3. Quizzes
4. Written homework
5. Oral presentations
6. Written portfolio
7. Or any other deemed appropriate by an individual instructor

G. SPECIAL INFORMATION (if any):
Students may incur some additional costs for duplicating.