

Course Outline for
Creative Writing (online)

Grade Level(s):	9-12	
Assignments:	18 lessons	Credits: 5 units
Format:	online	
UC a-g Requirements:	none – meets high school graduation requirement	
Instructional Materials:	online newspapers, magazines, television	

Course Description

Creative Writing includes the full spectrum of writing venues such as descriptive writing, poetry and interpretive writing, essays, point of view, personal response and opinion pieces, short stories, letter writing, editorials and interviews. Students study basic grammar as a route to more effective writing, learning about the function of adjective in descriptive writing and the use of clauses, for example. Students read samples of professional writing and use them as models throughout the course.

Learning Objectives

- Learn to write creatively using different points of view.
- Write creatively using different styles and in different contexts.
- Write biographical and autobiographical narratives and short stories.
- Write creatively in a functional and applicable context.
- Relate a sequence of events and communicate their significance.
- Locate scenes and incidents in specific places.
- Describe with concrete sensory details scenes and actions; depict characters' feelings and thoughts.
- Pace the presentation of actions to accommodate changes in time, mood, etc.
- Make effective use of description, images, perspective, and sensory details.

- Utilize correct grammar and usage to write effectively.

Course Outline

Lesson 1: Journal Entries

- A) Journal entries - 4 prompts for writing entries

Lesson 2: Descriptive Writing

- A) Adjectives: overview of writing descriptively
- B) 3 prompts for descriptive writing assignments

Lesson 3: Newspaper Articles

- A) Read 4 newspaper articles - response/reading questions
- B) Assignment: write your own newspaper article on topic of your choice

Lesson 4: Poetry

- A) Read: *Miss Rosie & The Bean Pickers*
- B) Response & reading questions - written interpretations
- C) Short essay: growing old in our society

Lesson 5: Society, Part I

- A) Creative assignment
- B) Research: how the elderly are treated in our society

Lesson 6: Society, Part II

- A) Creative assignment: writing from another's point of view - outline questions
- B) Writing assignment: Education in America [proposal]

Lesson 7: Society, Part III

- A) 7 social issues presented
- B) Choose assignment: short summations of your opinion/thoughts on 5 issues - write 1 well developed [2-3 pg] essay on 1 issue

Lesson 8: Point of View

- A) Point of view and audience - overview - thought experiment
- B) Writing exercises/assignments
- C) Response questions
- D) The 3 points of view writers employ - writing assignment
- E) Rewrite your story using the 3rd person point of view

Lesson 9: Emotive Writing

- A) Overview of emotive style of writing
- B) Memory & emotion - 3 memory based writing assignments

Lesson 10: Fragments & Run-On Sentences

- A) Overview & examples
- B) Independent & dependent clauses
- C) Day 1 assignment: rewrite passage using no run-ons or fragments
- D) Days 2 & 3 assignments: write your own passage using fragments & run-ons - rewrite your passage eliminating the fragments & run-ons

Lesson 11: Review & Parallel Construction

- A) Day 1: review lesson 10 - write your own version of a television news report with no fragments or run-ons
- B) Days 2 & 3: parallel construction overview & examples - exercises: rewriting sentences
- C) Days 4 & 5: write a dream using parallels (using no run-ons/fragments)

Lesson 12: Review

- A) Magazine articles: read 3 informative [how to] articles - document & summarize articles
- B) Write your own informative article

Lesson 13: The Short Story

- A) Sitcoms: watch at least two sitcoms - writing assignment
- B) Imagine you are going to create your own sitcom
- C) Writing assignments: character development - plot outline

Lesson 14: Short Story, (cont)

- A) Write an introduction to your sitcom
- B) Write the body of your sitcom
- C) Write the conclusion of your sitcom

Lesson 15: Free Writing

- A) Daily writing exercise - to be completed each day for 5 days

Lesson 16: Letter Writing

- A) Choose a friend, a relative, & an acquaintance
- B) Write a letter to each person: informal to friend - more formal to relative - formal thank you letter to acquaintance

Lesson 17: Editorials & Interviews

- A) Writing an editorial overview - read an editorial - summarize - write your own editorial
- B) Conducting an interview overview - read an interview - summarize - write up your own questions for interview

Lesson 18: Essay

- A) Choose topic - outline your ideas
- B) Write 750 word essay - proofread - submit - survey