

**College of San Mateo  
Official Course Outline**

1. **COURSE ID:** ENGL 162    **TITLE:** Creative Writing II  
**Units:** 3.0 units    **Hours/Semester:** 48.0-54.0 Lecture hours  
**Method of Grading:** Grade Option (Letter Grade or P/NP)  
**Prerequisite:** ENGL 161
  
2. **COURSE DESIGNATION:**  
**Degree Credit**  
**Transfer credit:** CSU; UC  
**AA/AS Degree Requirements:**  
    CSM - GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS: E2b. English, literature, Speech Communication  
**CSU GE:**  
    CSU GE Area C: ARTS AND HUMANITIES: C2 - Humanities (Literature, Philosophy, Languages Other than English)
  
3. **COURSE DESCRIPTIONS:**  
**Catalog Description:**  
    Further instruction in the writing of fiction and/or poetry. Students plan and complete an extensive creative writing project through agreement with the instructor.
  
4. **STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOME(S) (SLO'S):**  
    Upon successful completion of this course, a student will meet the following outcomes:
  1. Create a sustained body of work in poetry or fiction or a combination of the two.
  2. Demonstrate the ability to analyze and evaluate critically their own work and that of their peers.
  3. Edit and revise their work in response to feedback, demonstrating the ability to discriminate among a range of criticism.
  
5. **SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONAL OBJECTIVES:**  
    Upon successful completion of this course, a student will be able to:
  1. Create a sustained body of work in poetry or fiction or a combination of the two.
  2. Demonstrate the ability to analyze and evaluate critically his or her own work and that of peers.
  3. Edit and revise his or her work in response to feedback, demonstrating the ability to discriminate among a range of criticism.
  
6. **COURSE CONTENT:**  
**Lecture Content:**
  1. Students will complete a series of short stories, chapters of novels, or collections of poems, or plan a project that will incorporate both fiction and poetry with the goal of producing works of publishable quality.
    - A. Students working in fiction will:
      - a. Develop unpredictable plots,
      - b. develop round characters,
      - c. create flat characters,
      - d. develop settings, and
      - e. learn to select effective points of view.
    - B. Students working with poetry will, in their poems:
      - a. Incorporate sound devices,
      - b. incorporate varied line lengths,
      - c. master use of fresh language,
      - d. recognize and avoid cliches, and
      - e. recognize and incorporate varied rhythms.
  2. Students will review elements of poetry and fiction taught in English 161.
  3. Students will participate in fiction and poetry workshops, attending all 161 classroom sessions if there is no separate 162 section.
  4. Students and instructor will create a schedule of due dates for their fiction/poetry over the course of the semester.
  5. Students and instructor will meet and confer (possibly via e-mail) over the course of the semester.
  6. Students will participate in workshop sessions in which they will criticize the works of other students and

receive criticism of their own works from their peers.

## 7. REPRESENTATIVE METHODS OF INSTRUCTION:

Typical methods of instruction may include:

- A. Lecture
- B. Discussion
- C. Individualized Instruction
- D. Other (Specify): Methods will include lecture, discussion, and workshop sessions. The instructor will assist students in analyzing poems and stories from published texts when they're needed as models. Students will participate with instructor in workshop sessions in which student work is reviewed and criticized. Because the students will be working on projects largely of their own devising, the instructor will meet as needed with students to assist them in attaining their goals.

## 8. REPRESENTATIVE ASSIGNMENTS

Representative assignments in this course may include, but are not limited to the following:

### **Writing Assignments:**

Writing and revision of poems

Writing and revision of short stories

In-Class Writing Prompts and Free Writes designed to illustrate individual writing techniques.

### **Reading Assignments:**

Reading of classic and contemporary poems that exemplify writing techniques covered in the class

Reading of classic and contemporary short fiction that exemplifies writing techniques covered in the class

## 9. REPRESENTATIVE METHODS OF EVALUATION

Representative methods of evaluation may include:

- A. Students will be evaluated primarily on how well their poems, short stories, and chapters meet criteria they and the instructor set for their respective projects at the beginning of the semester.

## 10. REPRESENTATIVE TEXT(S):

Possible textbooks include:

- A. Bell, Madison Smart.. *Narrative Design*, ed. W. W. Norton, Inc., 1998
- B. Denman, Margaret-Love and Barbara Shoup.. *Story Matters: Contemporary Short Story Writers Share the Creative Process*, ed. Houghton Mifflin, 2006
- C. Knorr, Jeff and Tim Schell.. *A Writer's Country: A Collection of Fiction and Poetry*, ed. Prentice Hall, 2001
- D. Schoen, Steven.. *The Truth about Fiction*, ed. Prentice Hall, 2000
- E. Scofield, Sandra.. *The Scene Book: A Primer for the Fiction Writer*, ed. Penguin Books, 2007
- F. Lawn, Beverly.. *40 Short Stories: A Portable Anthology*, ed. Bedford St. Martin's, 2001
- G. Mayes, Frances.. *The Discovery of Poetry*, ed. Harcourt, Inc., 2001
- H. Strand, Mark and Eavan Boland.. *The Making of a Poem*, ed. W. W. Norton, 2000
- I. Van Cleave, Ryan G. and Todd James Pierce.. *Behind the Short Story: From First to Final Draft*, ed. Pearson Education, 2007
- J. DeMaria, Robert.. *The College Handbook of Creative Writing*, 3rd ed. Heinle & Heinle, 2002
- K. LaPlante, A.. *The Making of a Story*, ed. W. W. Norton & Company, 2010
- L. Sellers, H.. *The Practice of Creative Writing: A Guide for Students*, ed. Bedford/St. Martin's, 2012
- M. Lockward, D.. *The Crafty Poet: A Portable Workshop*, ed. Wind Publications, 2013

**Origination Date:** April 2016  
**Curriculum Committee Approval Date:** May 2016  
**Effective Term:** Fall 2016  
**Course Originator:** Mick Sherer