

Creative Writing is an English elective course that focuses on the exploration of short fiction and poetry, culminating in a written portfolio that includes one revised short story and three to five polished poems. Students draft, revise, and polish fiction and poetry through writing exercises, developing familiarity with literary terms and facility with the writing process as they study elements of creative writing.

Elements of fiction writing explored in this course include attention to specific detail, observation, character development, setting, plot, and point of view. In the poetry units, students learn about the use of sensory details and imagery, figurative language, and sound devices including rhyme, rhythm and alliteration. They also explore poetic forms ranging from found poems and slam poetry to traditional sonnets and villanelles.

In addition to applying literary craft elements in guided creative writing exercises, students engage in critical reading activities designed to emphasize the writing craft of a diverse group of authors. Students study short stories by authors such as Bharati Mukherjee and Edgar Allan Poe, learning how to create believable characters and develop setting and plot. Likewise, students read poetry by canonical greats such as W. B. Yeats and Emily Dickinson as well as contemporary writers such as Pablo Neruda, Sherman Alexie, and Alice Notley. Studying the writing technique of a range of authors provides students with models and inspiration as they develop their own voices and refine their understanding of the literary craft.

By taking a Creative Writing course, students find new approaches to reading and writing that can affect them on a personal level, as the skills they gain in each lesson directly benefit their own creative goals. Students who are already actively engaged writers and readers learn additional tools and insight into the craft of writing to help them further hone their skills and encourage their creative as well as academic growth.

This course is built to state standards and informed by the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) standards.

Length: One semester

UNIT 1: INTRODUCTION TO CREATIVE WRITING AND FICTION, PART 1

LESSON 1: GET EXCITED ABOUT WRITING!

Study: Where to Find Inspiration

Look at elements of the writing process for all types of creative writing and explore methods of finding and generating your own creative ideas.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Understanding the Study

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 15 mins Scoring: 10 points

Study: Wake Up Your Senses: Vivid Detail

Observe the way details "wake up" written descriptions, especially when they focus on the experience of our senses.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Understanding the Study

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 15 mins Scoring: 10 points

Journal: The Spy's Notebook: Observations in the Senses

Write details using observations from all five senses for possible later use in stories or poetry. (Optional: Take it one step further and use your most compelling observations to write a paragraph or poem.)

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 20 points

LESSON 2: WHO ARE YOU ANYWAY? DEVELOPING A CHARACTER

Study: Diving into Fiction: Characters and How Writers Read

Explore the use of character in fiction and observe reading methods that can sharpen your own writing technique.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Understanding the Study

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 15 mins Scoring: 10 points

Read: Getting to Know You: Characters in Prose

Observe and explore descriptions of characters in prose writing through guided close reading.

Duration: 0 hrs 45 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Understanding the Reading

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 15 mins Scoring: 10 points

Study: Characters Inside and Out

Explore ways to create interesting characters using details, direct and indirect characterization, and suggested motivation.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Understanding the Study

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 15 mins Scoring: 10 points

Practice: Character Sketch

Create a character using details, direct and indirect characterization, and suggested motivation.

Duration: 1 hr Scoring: 25 points

LESSON 3: WHO'S ON FIRST? ESTABLISHING A POINT OF VIEW

Study: First, Second, and Third Person

Explore the craft tools of first-, second-, and third-person point of view.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Understanding the Study

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 15 mins Scoring: 10 points

Study: Omniscient, Limited, and Stream-of-Consciousness Narration

Explore omniscient, limited, and stream-of-consciousness narration.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Understanding the Study

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 15 mins Scoring: 10 points

Read: Can I Read Your Mind? Narrative Perspective in Prose Writing

Observe and explore the use of point of view and narrative perspective in prose writing through guided close reading.

Duration: 0 hrs 45 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Understanding the Reading

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 15 mins Scoring: 10 points

Discuss: What's Your Point of View on Point of View?

Reflect on and inquire further into the effects of different types of point of view and narrative perspective.

Duration: 0 hrs 20 mins Scoring: 10 points

LESSON 4: STABLE AND SHIFTING VANTAGE POINTS

Study: Stable and Shifting Vantage Points: Psychic Distance

Explore the ways in which psychic distance (linguistic register) infers tone in writing.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Understanding the Study

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 15 mins Scoring: 10 points

Study: You Can Count on Me!

Explore the use of unreliable and reliable narrators in fiction.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Understanding the Study

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 15 mins Scoring: 10 points

Practice: Short Scene with Character and POV

Create your own scene using character and active choices about point of view and narrative perspective.

Duration: 1 hr Scoring: 40 points

LESSON 5: WRAP-UP: INTRODUCTION TO CREATIVE WRITING AND FICTION, PART 1

Review: Introduction to Creative Writing and Fiction, Part 1

Prepare for the unit test by reviewing key concepts and skills.

Duration: 1 hr 30 mins Scoring: 0 points

Test (CS): Introduction to Creative Writing and Fiction, Part 1

Take a computer-scored test to assess what you have learned in this unit.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 25 points

Test (TS): Introduction to Creative Writing and Fiction, Part 1

Take a teacher-scored test to assess what you have learned in this unit.

Duration: 0 hrs 40 mins Scoring: 50 points

UNIT 2: FICTION, PART 2

LESSON 1: YOU ARE HERE: GETTING INSIDE THE SETTING

Study: Picture Yourself: Using Details to Create Setting

Observe and explore techniques for creating a vivid setting by using the senses to provide details.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Understanding the Study

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 15 mins Scoring: 10 points

Study: Feeling the Landscape: Using Setting to Create Tone

Explore ways to suggest tone and create an atmosphere in the larger story through setting.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Understanding the Study

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 15 mins Scoring: 10 points

Journal: The Spy's Notebook: Observations of Location

Write details by observing the physical space around you for possible later use in a story or poem. (Optional: Take it one step further and use the most compelling observations to write a paragraph or a short scene with a vivid sense of setting.)

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 20 points

LESSON 2: ACTION! PLOT, PART 1

Study: Conflict and Tension

Explore methods of suggesting conflict and tension in a story using show versus tell.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Understanding the Study

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 15 mins Scoring: 10 points

Read: Reading for Action in the Short Story

Observe and explore the use of action in prose writing through guided close reading.

Duration: 0 hrs 45 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Understanding the Reading

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 15 mins Scoring: 10 points

Study: Words to Make Your Heart Race: Active Language

Explore ways in which language can be used to show action in a story on the word, sentence, and paragraph levels.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Understanding the Study

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 15 mins Scoring: 10 points

Practice: Jump In: Action and Tension

Write a short scene that starts in the middle of an underlying conflict or tension between characters while using active language.

Duration: 1 hr Scoring: 25 points

LESSON 3: STORY ARC: PLOT, PART 2

Study: Story Arc: The Plot Mountain

Explore the literary concept of the story arc or plot mountain as it applies to prose writing, including rising action, falling action, and dénouement.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Understanding the Study

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 15 mins Scoring: 10 points

Study: Openings and Endings

Explore techniques writers use to engage readers' attention (openings) and resolve plot tensions (endings).

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Understanding the Study

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 15 mins Scoring: 10 points

Read: Up and Over: Hiking the Plot Mountain in a Short Story

Observe and explore the use of plot elements and a story arc in prose writing through guided close reading.

Duration: 0 hrs 45 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Understanding the Reading

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 15 mins Scoring: 10 points

Discuss: Blazing Trails: How Do You Want to Climb Plot Mountain?

Reflect and inquire further into ways to approach the story arc from a craft perspective.

Duration: 0 hrs 20 mins Scoring: 10 points

LESSON 4: TIME IS ON YOUR SIDE

Study: Pace Yourself: Scene versus Summary

Explore different methods of pacing with prose, examining when to slow down to write a detailed scene versus when to increase the pace of the plot.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Understanding the Study

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 15 mins Scoring: 10 points

Study: Time Travel: Flashbacks and Flash-Forwards

Explore craft approaches to the use of time in narrative, using techniques such as flashbacks, flash-forwards, and unusual time structures.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Understanding the Study

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 15 mins Scoring: 10 points

Practice: Writing a Scene with a Beginning, Middle, and End

Create a scene with a beginning, middle, and end in some order, with a specific focus on building tension and conflict, pacing, and active language.

Duration: 1 hr Scoring: 40 points

LESSON 5: WRAP-UP: FICTION, PART 2

Review: Fiction, Part 2

Prepare for the unit test by reviewing key concepts and skills.

Duration: 1 hr 30 mins Scoring: 0 points

Test (CS): Fiction, Part 2

Take a computer-scored test to assess what you have learned in this unit.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 25 points

Test (TS): Fiction, Part 2

Take a teacher-scored test to assess what you have learned in this unit.

Duration: 0 hrs 40 mins Scoring: 50 points

UNIT 3: FICTION, PART 3

LESSON 1: DIALOGUE IN FICTION

Study: How Do People Really Talk?

Explore the nuts and bolts of dialogue structure and capturing the feeling of people's actual speech patterns.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Understanding the Study

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 15 mins Scoring: 10 points

Study: What Dialogue Can Do

Explore what makes dialogue both believable and interesting and how it affects character and plot.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Understanding the Study

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 15 mins Scoring: 10 points

Journal: The Spy's Notebook: Eavesdropping Conversations

Create written observations of how people actually speak for possible later use in story dialogue. (Optional: Take it one step further and use the most compelling observations to write a short scene of dialogue or a single-page script that suggests an underlying story.)

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 20 points

LESSON 2: FICTION FORMS: FLASH FICTION AND THE VIGNETTE

Study: It Went By In a Flash

Explore what flash fiction is and how it relates to the short story.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Understanding the Study

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 15 mins Scoring: 10 points

Read: Sounding the Icebergs: Flash Fiction

Observe and explore the use of literary techniques in flash fiction through guided close reading.

Duration: 0 hrs 45 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Understanding the Reading

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 15 mins Scoring: 10 points

Study: The Power of Suggestion in Vignettes and Flash Fiction

Explore and inquire further into which elements of prose are necessary to create a satisfying piece.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Understanding the Study

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 15 mins Scoring: 10 points

Practice: Lightning Bolt: Write Your Own Piece of Flash Fiction

Create your own piece of flash fiction, using craft techniques of detail, show versus tell, tone, and suggestion.

Duration: 1 hr Scoring: 25 points

LESSON 3: TRUTHFUL LIES AND IMAGINED TRUTH: FICTION AND CREATIVE NONFICTION

Study: What Is Creative Nonfiction?

Explore the literary genre of creative nonfiction.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Understanding the Study

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 15 mins Scoring: 10 points

Study: What Do Fiction and Nonfiction Learn from Each Other?

Explore the similarities between fiction and nonfiction, confirming craft techniques for prose already developed in earlier lessons.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Understanding the Study

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 15 mins Scoring: 10 points

Read: Creative Nonfiction

Observe and explore through guided close reading the literary techniques in creative nonfiction that appear in fiction as well.

Duration: 0 hrs 45 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Understanding the Reading

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 15 mins Scoring: 10 points

Discuss: Too Much Truth, Too Much Imagination? The Dangers of Confusing Nonfiction and Fiction

Reflect on and inquire further into the differences between creative nonfiction and fiction. Connect contemporary writing concerns with your own experience.

Duration: 0 hrs 20 mins Scoring: 10 points

LESSON 4: REVISE, REVISE, REVISE!

Study: Global Revision: Interest, Style, and Flow

Examine and apply guided revision techniques for larger-scale flow, character consistency, plot, structure, and style.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Understanding the Study

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 15 mins Scoring: 10 points

Study: Local Revision: Proofreading and Attention to Language

Examine and apply guided revision techniques for proofreading and strengthening writing on the detail and language levels.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Understanding the Study

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 15 mins Scoring: 10 points

Practice: Write a Short Story

Create a short story using the fiction craft techniques you have learned so far.

Duration: 1 hr Scoring: 40 points

LESSON 5: WRAP-UP: FICTION, PART 3

Review: Fiction, Part 3

Prepare for the unit test by reviewing key concepts and skills.

Duration: 1 hr 30 mins Scoring: 0 points

Test (CS): Fiction, Part 3

Take a computer-scored test to assess what you have learned in this unit.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 25 points

Test (TS): Fiction, Part 3

Take a teacher-scored test to assess what you have learned in this unit.

Duration: 0 hrs 40 mins Scoring: 50 points

UNIT 4: POETRY, PART 1

LESSON 1: WHAT MAKES A POEM A POEM?

Study: Poetry and Prose: Shared and Differing Traits

Look at the differences between poetry and prose. Explore how sound, line, image, and structure drive poems.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Understanding the Study

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 15 mins Scoring: 10 points

Study: Every Word Counts: The Power of Compression

Observe how compression can make language come alive in poetry. Explore compression through play-on-page with text-message novels, haiku, and erasure.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Understanding the Study

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 15 mins Scoring: 10 points

Journal: The Spy's Notebook: Erasures and Found Poems

Create an erasure poem by revealing only certain words in a given text. (Optional: Take it one step further and create a list of favorite words and phrases borrowed from a text. Then rearrange them to create a found poem, citing the original source.)

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 20 points

LESSON 2: THE IMAGE INSIDE IMAGINATION**Study: Sensory Detail and Show versus Tell**

Explore how using your senses can create images that "show" and don't "tell" in your poetry.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Understanding the Study

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 15 mins Scoring: 10 points

Read: Getting Inside the Vivid Image: Selected Poems

Observe and explore the use of vivid images and details in poetry through guided close reading.

Duration: 0 hrs 45 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Understanding the Reading

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 15 mins Scoring: 10 points

Study: The World Inside a Word: Word Choice, Connotation, and Etymology

Explore how words carry connotations, what denotation reveals about words, and how knowing the history of a word can change its meaning.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Understanding the Study

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 15 mins Scoring: 10 points

Practice: Write a Short Poem by Stacking Words and Images

Write a poem that uses vivid imagery and language.

Duration: 1 hr Scoring: 25 points

LESSON 3: MAKE IT STRANGE AND NEW: FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE**Study: Figurative Language: Metaphor**

Explore the difference between metaphor and simile and discover how they can make language and images strange and new.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Understanding the Study

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 15 mins Scoring: 10 points

Study: Personification and Synesthesia

Investigate the ways in which personification and synesthesia can blend what we observe through our senses into language and images that add surprise to poetry.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Understanding the Study

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 15 mins Scoring: 10 points

Read: Refreshing the Senses: Diving into Figurative Language

Observe and explore the use of figurative language in poetry through guided close reading.

Duration: 0 hrs 45 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Understanding the Reading

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 15 mins Scoring: 10 points

Discuss: Discuss Imagery in "The Walrus and the Carpenter"

Reflect on and inquire further into the use of figurative language and suggestion in poetry through riddle poems. Connect craft technique with your own experience as a reader and riddle-solver.

Duration: 0 hrs 20 mins Scoring: 10 points

LESSON 4: LOADED IMAGES AND POWER OBJECTS

Study: Metonymy

Explore how metonymy creates a chain of meaning in loaded images.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Understanding the Study

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 15 mins Scoring: 10 points

Study: Symbols and Allusion

Discover the power of a hint or a nod toward a symbol or an allusion.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Understanding the Study

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 15 mins Scoring: 10 points

Practice: Write a Poem Emphasizing Figurative Language

Create a poem that emphasizes language play.

Duration: 1 hr Scoring: 40 points

LESSON 5: WRAP-UP: POETRY, PART 1

Review: Poetry, Part 1

Prepare for the unit test by reviewing key concepts and skills.

Duration: 1 hr 30 mins Scoring: 0 points

Test (CS): Poetry, Part 1

Take a computer-scored test to assess what you have learned in this unit.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 25 points

Test (TS): Poetry, Part 1

Take a teacher-scored test to assess what you have learned in this unit.

Duration: 0 hrs 40 mins Scoring: 50 points

UNIT 5: POETRY, PART 2

LESSON 1: POET'S TOOLBOX: SOUNDS

Study: Alliteration and Assonance

Explore how alliteration and assonance give musical qualities to poetry.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Understanding the Study

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 15 mins Scoring: 10 points

Study: Onomatopoeia: Feelings in Word Sounds

Discover the connections between how a word sounds and how it makes you feel.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Understanding the Study

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 15 mins Scoring: 10 points

Journal: The Spy's Notebook: Words and Sounds

Create a list of lines and phrases driven by the sounds of the words for possible later use in a poem. (Optional: Take it one step further and write a poem that suggests a feeling through the sounds of the words it uses.)

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 20 points

LESSON 2: POET'S TOOLBOX: RHYMING**Study: Why Do We Rhyme?**

Identify the characteristics of rhyme and rhyming patterns and explore how rhyme can add musical qualities to a poem.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Understanding the Study

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 15 mins Scoring: 10 points

Read: Exploration of Rhyme

Observe and explore the use of sound and rhyme in poetry through guided close reading.

Duration: 0 hrs 45 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Understanding the Reading

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 15 mins Scoring: 10 points

Study: How to Keep Rhymes Interesting

Discover how rhyme can add surprise to poetry.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Understanding the Study

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 15 mins Scoring: 10 points

Practice: Write a Poem Using Rhyming Elements

Create your own rhyming poem.

Duration: 1 hr Scoring: 25 points

LESSON 3: POET'S TOOLBOX: RHYTHM**Study: We've Got the Beat: Types of Meter**

Investigate the characteristics and types of meter in poetry.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Understanding the Study

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 15 mins Scoring: 10 points

Study: Clunky versus Smooth: Improving Natural Flow

Explore how rhythm can help poetry flow both on the page and in performance.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Understanding the Study

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 15 mins Scoring: 10 points

Read: Heartbeat and Hoofbeat: Selected Poems

Observe and explore the use of rhythm in formal and free-verse poetry through guided close reading.

Duration: 0 hrs 45 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Understanding the Reading

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 15 mins Scoring: 10 points

Discuss: Rhythm on the Page versus Rhythm on the Stage

Reflect on and inquire further into the effects of rhythm, both on the page and as spoken words. Connect craft techniques to your own experience as a reader and listener.

Duration: 0 hrs 20 mins Scoring: 10 points

LESSON 4: POET'S TOOLBOX: LINES, SENTENCES, AND STANZAS

Study: Where to Draw the Line

Explore how line breaks and lengths, end words and enjambment, and syllabic and metrical counts can make or break a poem's musical qualities.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Understanding the Study

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 15 mins Scoring: 10 points

Study: Building Rooms: Using Stanzas in Poetry

Explore stanzas, stanza breaks, and sequence poems.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Understanding the Study

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 15 mins Scoring: 10 points

Practice: Writing with Sound and Rhythm

Write a poem working with sound and rhythm with attention to line and stanza shape

Duration: 1 hr Scoring: 40 points

LESSON 5: WRAP-UP: POETRY, PART 2

Review: Poetry, Part 2

Prepare for the unit test by reviewing key concepts and skills.

Duration: 1 hr 30 mins Scoring: 0 points

Test (CS): Poetry, Part 2

Take a computer-scored test to assess what you have learned in this unit.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 25 points

Test (TS): Poetry, Part 2

Take a teacher-scored test to assess what you have learned in this unit.

Duration: 0 hrs 40 mins Scoring: 50 points

UNIT 6: POETRY, PART 3 AND REVISION

LESSON 1: BUILDING CONNECTION, FEELING, AND INFERENCE

Study: Juxtaposition, Tone, and Inference

Discover how placing words and images side by side can create surprise in poetry. Explore how writers use tone to add meaning to poetry.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Understanding the Study

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 15 mins Scoring: 10 points

Study: First Line, Last Line, and Title

Explore how the first line, last line, and title of a poem can create and confound our expectations as we read poetry.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Understanding the Study

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 15 mins Scoring: 10 points

Journal: The Spy's Notebook: Lists, Lists, and More Lists

Create a list of titles and first lines for poems that do not yet exist for possible later use in a poem. (Optional: Take it one step further and create a poem using only first lines, arranging them to create interesting juxtapositions and to suggest tone.)

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 20 points

LESSON 2: FREE VERSE AND OPEN FORMS

Study: Nothing's Ever Free: What Is "Free Verse"?

Explore narrative, lyric, and prose poetry.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Understanding the Study

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 15 mins Scoring: 10 points

Read: So Many Shapes and Sizes: Diving into Poetry

Observe the variety of free-verse and open-form poems, exploring craft techniques in the writing through guided close reading.

Duration: 0 hrs 45 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Understanding the Reading

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 15 mins Scoring: 10 points

Study: Good Morning, I Love You, Goodnight: Open Forms

Explore the open-structured forms of the aubade, ode, and nocturne.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Understanding the Study

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 15 mins Scoring: 10 points

Practice: Write a Nocturne, Aubade, or Ode

Create your own nocturne, aubade, or ode.

Duration: 1 hr Scoring: 25 points

LESSON 3: GETTING FAMILIAR WITH FORMAL POETRY

Study: Metrical and Rhymed Forms

Explore metrical and rhymed forms, including the heroic couplet, the terza rima, and the sonnet.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Understanding the Study

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 15 mins Scoring: 10 points

Study: Repeating Forms

Discover how patterns can add surprise to poetry.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Understanding the Study

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 15 mins Scoring: 10 points

Read: Getting Inside the Structure: Selected Formal Poems

Observe and explore examples of formal poetry, exploring craft techniques in the writing through guided close reading.

Duration: 0 hrs 45 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Understanding the Reading

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 15 mins Scoring: 10 points

Discuss: Why Bother? Challenges and Boons of Using Poetic Form

Reflect on and inquire further into the usefulness, pleasures, and challenges of using poetic forms when writing poetry.

Duration: 0 hrs 20 mins Scoring: 10 points

LESSON 4: REVISE! REVISE! REVISE!

Study: Word Choice, Compression, Interesting Language, and Vivid Images

Discover how revising for word choice, compression, fresh language, and vivid imagery can help you make connections within your writing.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Understanding the Study

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 15 mins Scoring: 10 points

Study: Form and Content, Meaning and Intention

Examine and apply guided revision techniques for examining the relationship between form, content, and intention in poetry.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Understanding the Study

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 15 mins Scoring: 10 points

Practice: Choose Poems and Revise

Create revised and polished poems using all of the craft techniques developed throughout the course.

Duration: 1 hr Scoring: 40 points

LESSON 5: WRAP-UP: POETRY, PART 3

Review: Poetry, Part 3 and Revision

Prepare for the unit test by reviewing key concepts and skills.

Duration: 1 hr 30 mins Scoring: 0 points

Test (CS): Poetry, Part 3 and Revision

Take a computer-scored test to assess what you have learned in this unit.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 25 points

Test (TS): Poetry, Part 3 and Revision

Take a teacher-scored test to assess what you have learned in this unit.

Duration: 0 hrs 40 mins Scoring: 50 points

UNIT 7: WRAP-UP

LESSON 1: WRAP-UP

Review: Semester Review

Prepare for the semester exam by reviewing key concepts covered in this course.

Duration: 3 hrs Scoring: 0 points

Exam: Final Exam

Take a computer-scored exam to demonstrate your mastery of concepts and skills covered in this course.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 50 points

Final Exam: Portfolio Review

Take a teacher-scored exam to demonstrate your mastery of concepts and skills covered in this course.

Duration: 1 hr Scoring: 100 points