



**UNIVERSITY OF PUERTO RICO
ARECIBO
ENGLISH DEPARTMENT
INGL 3238**

Title	Introduction to Creative Writing
Course Code	INGL 3238
Contact Hours	Three (3) hours per week/Three (3) credits
Requisites	INGL 3101-3102, INGL 3103-3104, or level 4 o 5 on the advanced placement examination (CEEB)
Course Description	Theory and practice in writing fiction, poetry and drama are covered. Detailed in-class criticism of student writing is also emphasized.

Learning Objectives

At the end of the course the students will be able to:

- A. Compose several creative works such as poems, short stories, one-act plays and/or personal essays.
- B. Develop written critique and discuss in class their work and the work of others in a collaborative workshop atmosphere.
- C. Engage in and understand the concept of revision.
- D. Write a publishable creative writing text.
- E. Read and critically analyze several literary texts.
- F. Identify the basic elements of the different literary genres and apply those concepts to their creative work.
- G. Understand the concepts and the process of preparing and submitting a work for publication.

Course Outline and Time Distribution

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|---|---------|
| A. Introduction, course guidelines and writing assessment | 2 hrs. |
| B. Discussion of workshop etiquette, pre-writing techniques | 3 hrs. |
| C. Reading, analyzing and creating poetry | 11 hrs. |
| D. Reading, analyzing and creating short stories | 15 hrs. |
| E. Reading and writing drama and /or personal essays | 9 hrs. |
| F. Development of a portfolio of revised work | 3 hrs. |
| G. The presentation of a literary work (performance) | 2 hrs. |

Total 45.0 hours

Instructional Techniques

- A. The following strategies may be used to teach the course:

1. Active learning through writing exercises that include a variety of activities and styles to stimulate the creation of original work.
2. Peer reviews/workshop model includes sharing work, listening to and providing constructive criticism
3. Portfolio assessment allows students to assess their process as creative writers, as well as reflect on the importance of the revision process.

Learning Resources and Minimum Required Installations and Facilities

The course content will be enriched by using library resources, digital technologies, multimedia/audiovisual materials, Internet resources, guest speakers, on and/or off campus literary and other cultural events and other supplementary materials that are prepared by the professor.

Evaluation Techniques

Grades will not be assigned to student work since the object of the course is to appreciate the creative writing experience and improve on that experience through revision and peer review and critique. Students who attend class regularly, participate and complete all assignments and revisions satisfactorily will earn the highest grade. The best work will be the most original revised work which shows respect for the language and its conventions (grammar and punctuation.)

Poetry assignments	-----	30%
Fiction assignments	-----	30%
Other literary genres	-----	30%
Attendance and Participation	-----	10%

Note: Certification 111-2014-2015 of the Governing Board defines a face-to-face course as: "Course in which 75% or more of instruction hours require the physical presence of students and the professor in the classroom." The remaining 25% may be covered using different educational strategies, among which are: visits related to the course, field experiences, excursions, and online activities, among others. It is the responsibility of the professor to provide evidence of all the activities with attendance sheets and assessment of these activities.

Reasonable Accommodation

Students who are sheltered under Law 51 or receive vocational rehabilitation services that require reasonable accommodations must inform the professor at the beginning of the semester by bringing an official letter that is sent from the office that deals with the matters of persons with impediments at the university in order to offer the necessary accommodations in accordance to the specifications that are delineated in said document.

Academic Integrity

The University of Puerto Rico promotes the highest standards of academic and scientific integrity. Article 6.2 of the UPR Students General Bylaws (Board of Trustees Certification 12-2009-2010) states that academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to: fraudulent actions; obtaining grades or academic degrees by false or fraudulent simulations; copying the whole or part of the academic work of another person; plagiarizing totally or partially the work of another person; copying all or part of

another person's answers to the questions of an oral or written exam by taking or getting someone else to take the exam on his/her behalf; as well as enabling and facilitating another person to perform the aforementioned behavior. Any of these behaviors will be subject to disciplinary action in accordance with the disciplinary procedure laid down in the UPR Students General Bylaws.

Grading Scale

100% – 90% A
89% – 80% B
79% – 70% C
69% – 60% D
59% and lower F

Bibliography

1. Browne Renni and Dave King. *Self Editing For Fiction Writers*. New York: Harper Perennial, 1993.
2. Carey Michael. *Poetry: Starting from Scratch*. Lincoln Nebraska: Foundation Books, 1989.
3. Ferraro, Susan and Marcia Biederman. *Responsible Writing: What You Should Know About Libel, Permissions, And Trademarks*. Poets and Writers, Inc., 1993.
4. Hills, Rust. *Writing in General and the Short Story in Particular*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1987.
5. Minot, Stephen. *Three Genres: The Writing of Poetry, Fiction, and Drama* 7th ed. New York: Prentice Hall, 2002.
6. Rae, Colleen Mariah. *Movies In The Mind: How To Build A Short Story*. Santa Fe, NM: Sherman Asher Publishing, 1996.
7. Smith, Michael C. and Suzanne Greenberg. *Everyday Creative Writing: Panning for Gold in the Kitchen Sink*. Illinois: NTC Publishing Group, 1996.
8. Torres, L.M. *Impedimentos Visuales: Naturaleza y Necesidades*. San Juan: Editorial Isla Negra, 1998.
9. Torres, L.M. *Movilidad: Necesidad Básica de Personas con Impedimentos*. 1999.
10. Whitney, Phyllis. *Guide to Fiction Writing*. Boston: The Writer, Inc., 1982.
11. Willis, Meredith Sue. *Personal Fiction Writing*. New York: Teachers and Writers Collaborative, 1984.

*Revised by Prof. P. Morales in accordance with Cert. 112 2014-2015 and adapted to a Learning Community Method on December 16, 2015.

- Changes to the syllabus should be consulted with the Course Coordinator and Director of the Department.