

# Anoka-Ramsey Community College

## ENGL 2261: Creative Nonfiction Writing

### A. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Credits: 3

Lecture Hours/Week: 3

Lab Hours/Week: \*.\*

OJT Hours/Week: \*.\*

Prerequisites:

This course requires any of these three prerequisites

ENGL 1120 - Cross-Current College Writing and Critical Reading (Minimum grade: 2.0 GPA Equivalent)

ENGL 1121 - College Writing and Critical Reading (Minimum grade: 2.0 GPA Equivalent)

A score of 3 on test Adv Placement English Language/Comp

Corequisites: None

MnTC Goals: Goal 01 - Communication, Goal 06 - Humanities/Fine Arts

(MnTC Goals 1 and 6)

Prerequisite: ENGL 1120/1121 with a grade of C or better

Recommended Skills, Abilities, or Coursework: A student who has not met the necessary prerequisites for the course, but strongly possesses the abilities necessary to complete the course successfully, should contact the instructor directly.

In this course, students will study the art of creative literary nonfiction writing, focusing on various subgenres, such as literary memoir, personal essay, lyric essay, literary reportage, nonfiction short, and blended forms. Students will engage in the creative and analytical process of reading as writers, responding to both student and published texts in writing and in class discussion. Guided by instruction in contemporary aesthetics, students will develop disciplined writing and revising practices.

**B. COURSE EFFECTIVE DATES:** 06/01/1998 - Present

### C. OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS

1. Overview of the creative process
2. Understand the importance of word choice and language
3. Develop and control figurative language and imagery
4. Explore techniques for discovering and creating material
5. Overview of traditional narrative structures
6. Overview of experimental narrative structures
7. Practice methods in showing vs. telling
8. Shape and revise drafts based on peer and instructor feedback
9. Overview of subgenres of literary nonfiction, such as memoir

#### **D. LEARNING OUTCOMES (General)**

1. Read, discuss, and critique a broad selection of texts, including literary nonfiction, with a focus on analyzing form and technique in order to guide and inform one's own creative work
2. Identify contemporary techniques in literary nonfiction genres
3. Understand the creative process and practice techniques for prewriting, writing, revising, and editing one's own creative work
4. Understand writing for different audiences
5. Understand the contemporary aesthetics and standards of literary nonfiction
6. Participate in large and small workshops and be able to respond critically and analytically to written work, and practice this critical analysis of one's own writing
7. Understand that excellent contemporary literary writing derives from both individual and cultural values that are shaped by broader social, historical, and aesthetic standards and movements
8. Students will be expected to produce a body of revised, polished literary nonfiction that will culminate in a final portfolio of 20-30 pages

#### **E. Minnesota Transfer Curriculum Goal Area(s) and Competencies**

##### Goal 01 - Communication

1. Understand/demonstrate the writing and speaking processes through invention, organization, drafting, revision, editing and presentation.
2. Participate effectively in groups with emphasis on listening, critical and reflective thinking, and responding.
3. Select appropriate communication choices for specific audiences.
4. Use authority, point-of-view, and individual voice and style in their writing and speaking.

##### Goal 06 - Humanities/Fine Arts

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 an historical and social context.
3. Respond critically to works in the arts and humanities.
4. Engage in the creative process or interpretive performance.
5. Articulate an informed personal reaction to works in the arts and humanities.

#### **F. LEARNER OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT**

As noted on course syllabus

#### **G. SPECIAL INFORMATION**

None noted