The University of Jordan
Faculty of Foreign Languages
Department of English Language and Literature

Course Title: Creative Writing
Course Number: 2201471

Course Objectives:
1. to provide students with opportunities for creative exploration in writing.
2. to explore creative techniques for discovering and developing ideas for writing
3. to use the creative process in writing: creating ideas, developing ideas, discovering or selecting forms, revising, editing, and formatting the writing.
4. to learn how to respond with productive criticism to another's writing.
5. to learn how to receive and use productive criticism to revise writing
6. to learn to explore and use the forms of personal essay, poetry and short stories
7. to discover one's own writer's voice in various forms of writing.
8. to learn and apply the rules of editing and formatting.

Learning Outcomes:
    A. Knowledge and understanding
      1) Intellectual Skills (cognitive and analytical)
        a) Knowledge of the forms of personal and literary essay, poetry, and short story.
        b) Knowledge of the paradigm of the creative process
        c) Ability to analyze a piece of writing, one's own or another's, for revising and editing suggestions.
        d) Ability to revise with the purpose of the piece and the reader's needs in mind.

    2) Subject-specific skills
        a) skill in developing ideas, using creative techniques
        b) skill in organizing writing according to the purpose and audience for the writing
        c) skill in revising and editing written drafts
        d) skill in formatting finished work, seeing formatting as a theoretical element of the finished piece.

    3) Transferable Skills
        All of the subject-specific skills mentioned above can transfer to writing in other academic subjects or in the professional world.

Teaching Methods:

1) **Lectures** : an average of 15 minutes per class will consist of informative lectures
2) **Workshops**: most classes will contain some workshop time spent in writing, readings, responding to writing, revising or editing.
3) **Assignments and projects:** students' assignments consist of daily writing in response to prompts assigned or chosen, assigned types of writing and mid-term and final writing projects.

Scope   Time-permitting, the following genres will be discussed over the course of the semester: poetry, short fiction, and plays.

Class Format   Class will generally begin with a 10-minute informative lecture. The rest of the class time will be divided between literary analysis and workshop. In preparation for literary analysis, students should come with textual criticism to share with the class. Unpreparedness will affect the 'participation' grading component. For workshop, assignments should be completed. Students should be prepared to read their work aloud to the class and to give their peers constructive criticism in turn.

Evaluation

Midterm	30%
Writer's Journal	8%
Blog posts	7%
Class Work	5 %
Final Exam	50%

References

Cioffi, Frank. *The Imaginative Argument*. New Jersey: Princeton University Press. 2005. 12-30

Crane, Milton (ed.) *50 Great Short Stories*. New York: Random House, Inc. 2005.

Elmessiri, Nur and Abdelwahab (eds.) *A Land of Stone and Thyme: An Anthology of Palestinian Short Stories*. London: Quartet Books. 1996.

Lauter, Paul (ed.) *The Heath Anthology of American Literature: Volume E: Contemporary Period*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company. 2006.

Thomas, James, Denise Thomas and Thom Hazuka (eds.) *Flash Fiction: 72 Very Short Stories*. New York: W. W. Norton & Co. 1992.

Zinsser, William (ed.) *Inventing the Truth: The Art and Craft of Memoir*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company. 1998.

Tentative Schedule

Week	Material
One	Introduction and Orientation
Two - Six	**Writing Poetry:** • Rhyme, Rhythm, and Meter • Poetic Forms • Free Verse • Choosing a voice • Poetic Language: simile, metaphor, imagery, etc.
Seven – Nine	**Blogging:** • Creating a Blog • Topics suitable for blog posts • Keeping your posts interesting
Ten - Fifteen	**Writing Short Fiction:** • Choosing a setting • Creating a character • Structuring Events • Choosing a narrative voice