Creative Writing - Class Syllabus

Category: Communication

Grade Levels: 6-12

Format: Online (Google Classroom)

Note: This will be a different Google Classroom than the one used by your mentor. The class code will be emailed the week before class starts.

Instructor Information

- Instructor: Mark Ring
- Contact:
 - Email: mring@homeoftheshamrocks.org
 - Phone: (269) 932-5531
- Qualifications:
 - Michigan Teacher Certification
 - Certified in English, Film, and Drama (Grades 6–12)

Course Description

This 8-week online course is designed to enhance your creative writing skills through a series of fun and engaging writing exercises. You'll explore various styles and formats, including vignettes, flash fiction, and playwriting. Each week introduces a new focus to help develop your voice as a writer.

Schedule and Structure

- Start Date: Monday, September 8
- End Date: Sunday, November 2
- Frequency: Once a week (asynchronous)
- Weekly Commitment: Minimum 2 hours
- Total Time Requirement: 16 hours
- Assignment Posting: Mondays (weekly)
- Deadline: One week to complete each task
- Location: Google Classroom (code will be emailed)

Weekly Schedule

| Week | Dates | Writing Units |
|------|-------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1 | Sept 8 – Sept 14 | Welcome & About the Author |
| 2 | Sept 15 – Sept 21 | Vignettes |
| 3 | Sept 22 – Sept 28 | Vignettes |
| 4 | Sept 29 – Oct 5 | Flash Fiction / Short Stories |
| 5 | Oct 6 – Oct 12 | Flash Fiction / Short Stories |
| 6 | Oct 13 – Oct 19 | Playwriting |
| 7 | Oct 20 – Oct 26 | Playwriting |
| 8 | Oct 27 – Nov 2 | Final Reflection |

Note: A vignette is a short, descriptive passage that captures a specific moment in time.

Assessment & Expectations

- Participation: Active weekly participation is required.
- Assignment Submission: Students must submit work each week and respond to the instructor's feedback.
- Make-Up Work: Missed assignments should be made up promptly unless there is an emergency.
- Quality of Work: Effort and engagement are just as important as writing skills.

Class Policies

- Be consistent with weekly participation.
- Complete and turn in all writing assignments on time.
- Communicate with the instructor if you fall behind or have questions.
- Creativity and willingness to explore new writing styles are encouraged.