Creative Writing II Ms. Sanders Holly Springs High

Contact Information: msanders2@wcpss.net Planning: 2nd Block

HOT Lunch Tutorials: Monday A and Thursday B Office Hours: Wednesday 2:30-3:30

**What is creative writing?** Creative writing is the art of crafting a piece for publication. Notebook generating is just one of the steps in the creative process. The true art of writing includes not only the process of journaling or generating, but also phases of reading, mentoring, experimenting/revising, and editing. All final pieces you will create for this class will reflect the process of writing. Our goal is to become a community of writers who experiment, craft, revise and tinker with our work.

**Prerequisite: Creative Writing 1** Since you have already learned the basics in Creative Writing I, with this course, we will be discussing how to write a much longer piece, as well as the different conventions that come with different genres. We will also discuss different movements throughout history to incorporate some of their techniques into your writing.

**Grading Scale**:

* 15% homework and participation
* 35% minor assignments—drafts, longer homework assignments, open mics
* 50% major assignments—benchmarks, assignments that we have worked on over a period of time

**Ongoing assignments**

In our class, we will have a few assignments that are ongoing. You will receive a calendar with due dates for these assignments and quizzes.

* **Independent reading:** you should have an independent reading book with you at all times. If you finish early, or have some time in between assignments, you should pull out your book to read. You can’t become a great writer unless you are a great reader! We will have “Book talks” periodically throughout the semester, so make sure you stick with a book, rather than picking up a random one every time we read.
* **Open Mics:** every week, we will have a workshop and an open mic. You will be required to participate in three of these each quarter. In order to participate, you will upload a piece that you are working on and you will workshop it with a small group early in the week. Then, after some revisions, you will read the piece aloud to the whole class and receive more feedback then. You will be graded on your participation in each of these, as well as the feedback that you give to others each week.

**Final Project**

* You will be writing a major work: either a novella, play, or a screenplay. **In the end, the major work will total at least 10,000 words (12,500 words for honors). This will be the equivalent of about 40 pages double spaced, Times New Roman 12 (50 pages for Honors).**
	+ February 24—Brainstorm and character bios are due
	+ March 24—First 4,000 words due (5,000 words for Honors)
	+ April 24—Second 4,000 words due. A total of 8,000 words should be completed at this point. The grade will be cumulative. (5,000 and 10,000 for Honors)
	+ June 2—Final 2,000 words due. (2,500 for honors) A total of 10,000 to 12,500 words should be completed at this point. This, with a reflection which will count for 20%, will count as your final exam grade.
* Each of these pieces of your project will be worth a MAJOR GRADE. DO NOT get behind in this assignment. Once you miss one due date, it will be really hard to catch up.
* Due to the nature of this project, there are no final exam exemptions in this class. Sorry!

**Expectations**

1. Raise your hand and wait to be recognized—only one person speaks at a time.
2. Be on time and bring your supplies every day.
3. No food, drinks, or electronic devices in the classroom.
4. Be respectful; no profanity, taunting, or insults, even if you are joking!
	1. This will be especially important in Creative Writing II. A great deal of our class is dependent on a workshop format in which each student is comfortable sharing his or her work.

**Plagiarism Policy**

Cheating and academic misconduct WILL NOT be tolerated at HSHS. Any student caught cheating on any assignment will be able to re-do an alternate assignment. He/she will also be referred to the appropriate administrator for consequences as outlined in the discipline policy. All students will be held accountable to follow the guidelines/expectations as stated in the HSHS Honor Code.

**Power Schools**

Wake County and Holly Springs have a program called Power Schools that allows parents and students to follow their current grades in a class. I will ask that students and parents log in periodically so that they can keep up with their grades. Please contact me if you have any questions or concerns arising from the grades posted.

**Supplies**

* Three ring binder with dividers
* Loose leaf paper
* Blue or black pens
* High lighters
* Markers/Colored pencils (as needed)
* **Independent reading book**
	+ **Please have a book by Friday. We will begin every Friday’s class with independent reading.**
* **All major writing assignments will have to be typed, double-spaced, in 12 pt Times New Roman font, with 1” margins (standard).**

**Tardy/Absentee Policy**

The Holly Springs High School tardy policy and make up work policy will be followed in this course. If you are absent from this class, it is your responsibility to obtain any work you missed. I will not hunt you down to make sure you are keeping up. This is your responsibility.

* Late work:
	1. 1 day late: -8 points
	2. 2 days late: -16 pts
	3. 3 days late: -24 pts
	4. 4 days late: -32 pts
	5. 5 or more days late: -40 pts
* You must attach a late work form to all late assignments.
	1. Only late work forms on **major** assignments must be signed by a parent.
* Make up work for days when you are not here: You must attach a make-up work form to any assignments that were due on a day when you were not here.
	1. All major assignments are due, even if you are absent. It is up to you to figure out a way to get your assignment to me.
	2. Forms can be found in the classroom or on the class’s Edmodo page.
	3. Put all late work, no matter the reason, in the appropriate folder in the late work box on the back table. I will grade them as soon as I am able.
* **Field Trips**: You must notify me in advance of any field trip that causes you to miss my class. You must hand in all work due on the day of your field trip before school that day. Any missed work must be made up on your own time.

**Tutorials**

* When you miss a quiz, have a poor grade, or any other reason, your name will appear on the tutorial board at the front of the classroom.
* It is your responsibility to check this board to see if you are supposed to go to tutorials.
* You have two opportunities to come to tutorials before you are written up.
	+ If your name appears on the board and you miss a tutorial, you will get a star by your name.
	+ If you miss a second tutorial, your name will be circled and you will be written up for missing tutorials.
	+ After you are written up, you go back to having 2 opportunities to come to tutorials.
* When you come to tutorials, you must be here at the beginning of the lunch, and stay for the entire A or B lunch.
* Sign in when you get here. There is a link on my website that you can use to sign in.

**Google Drive**

**This year, you will be using Google Drive to turn in many of your papers, especially your final project. We will also use this site to facilitate group work, peer editing, and collaboration.**

**Since you already have a gmail account through the Wake Count School District, you already have a google drive account! Just click on the  button at the top right hand side of the page, and choose the Drive icon .**

**If you do not know what your Wake County Gmail account is, then please see me, another teacher, or the librarians for assistance.**

Dear Parent or Guardian, Creative Writing II

Hello! My name is Meghan Sanders, and I will be your child’s Creative Writing II teacher this semester. Thank you for reading through this syllabus.

This semester in Creative Writing II, I will work relentlessly to teach and guide your child to become a better writer; however, I need every effort from you to help me in this endeavor. Below are some constants in our class that you should be aware of in order to encourage and motivate your child:

1. Students will have many at home writing assignments,ranging from simple paragraph or brainstorming activities to full stories and plays.
2. Students will have one major, semester long project that will count as their final project. Seniors cannot be exempt from this project, though they can be exempt from the write up at the end of the semester. They will have three due dates throughout the semester, which will count as major grades. These should help your student pace himself or herself so that (s)he is not trying to complete all 10,000-12,500 words at the end of the semester.
3. Students will complete group work assignments that may require working together outside of class. It is the students’ responsibility to figure out how they are going to accomplish the assignment.

Thank you for your time. If you have any comments or questions, please feel free to contact me using my contact information below.

Sincerely,

Meghan Sanders

Msanders2@wcpss.net

**Class website: sandershshs.weebly.com**

By signing below you indicate that you have:

1. Read through the syllabus

2. Understand the expectations of this class

Student’s Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Name of Parent or Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to Child: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone Number:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

* Please give an email address that you will check regularly. I will be sending out regular updates, as well as reminders through email, and it is vital that you are staying informed.

Is there anyone else I can speak with when I call home?

Parent signature:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Student’s signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Please write anything else about your child that you feel I need to know.**

(What is his or her best learning style? What subjects does he or she like? Does he or she have any learning disabilities? Does he or she have any allergies? Please include anything you can think of that will be helpful in helping him/her be successful this semester!)