

**RARITAN VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
ACADEMIC COURSE OUTLINE**

ENGL 248: CREATIVE WRITING

I. Basic Course Information

A. Course Number and Title: ENGL 248 Creative Writing

B. New or Modified Course: Modified

C. Date of Proposal: Semester: Spring Year: 2024

D. Effective Term: Fall 2025

E. Sponsoring Department: English

F. Semester Credit Hours: 3

G. Weekly Contact Hours: 3

Lecture: 3

Laboratory: 0

Out of class student work per week: 6

H. ☒ Prerequisite (s): ENGL 111 English Composition I

☐ Corequisite (s):

☐ Prerequisite (s) and Corequisite (s):

I. Additional Fees: None

II. Catalog Description

Prerequisite: ENGL 111 English Composition I. A Workshop course designed to encourage and develop a student's creative talents in writing. The instructor will teach two genres from among the following four genres: poetry, fiction, nonfiction, dramatic writing. Students will analyze and critique their peers' manuscripts as well as examples of published work.

III. Statement of Course Need

A. Creative Writing satisfies the need of a growing population of students who wish to pursue imaginative writing and perfect the crafts of poetry, fiction, nonfiction, and dramatic writing. The course will offer interested students the opportunity to

explore the use of voice in their own texts and prepare them to employ the terminology of that craft. Research reveals that many four-year institutions in New Jersey have equivalent courses to English 248, ensuring successful transferability for students. Overall, for the major and non-major alike, Creative Writing exposes students to the kinds of discussions and assignments they will encounter in writing workshops, both at RVCC and other institutions.

- B. This course does not have a Lab component
- C. This course generally transfers as a free elective dependent on the transfer institution.

IV. Place of Course in College Curriculum

- A. Free Elective
- B. This course does not serve as a General Education course.
- C. This course meets the Category D requirement in the English AA degree.
- D. To see course transferability: a) for New Jersey schools, go to the NJ Transfer website, www.njtransfer.org; b) for all other colleges and universities, go to the individual websites.

V. Outline of Course Content

- A. Introduction to course
- B. Exploring writing processes, including the importance of revision
- C. The Terminology of Fiction: Theme, Characterization, Point of View, Plot, Setting, Description, Dialogue, Tone and Style
- D. The Terminology of Poetry: Stanza, Lineation, Rime, Form, Figurative Language, Sound Devices, Speaker
- E. The Terminology of Nonfiction: Theme, Tone, Point of View, Speaker
- F. The Terminology of Dramatic Writing/ Performance writing: Theme, Character, Motivation, Chorus, Plot Structure (Exposition, Rising Action, Climax, Falling Action, Denouement/ Resolution), Dialogue, Props, Scenery, Stage Directions
- G. Reading and writing assignments related to C, D, E & F above
- H. Critical self-reflection

VI. A. Course Learning Outcomes:

Upon the completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Employ correct terminology in workshop discussions (GE 1)
2. Read and discuss published writings in terms of craft (GE 1, 6)
3. Write, revise, and discuss writings (GE 1)
4. Defend interpretations of writings using appropriate critical approaches (GE 1, 6)
5. Use textual evidence to support claims (GE 1, *)
6. Explain individual interpretations of texts in discussion and writing (GE 1)

7. Report on their analyses of student manuscripts in discussion (GE 1, 6)

(* Embedded critical thinking)

B. Assessment Instruments

1. in-class formal and informal writing
2. out-of-class formal and informal writing
3. discussion questions
4. response papers
5. self-reflections

VII. Grade Determinants

- A. Student's own poetry and fiction written during the course
- B. Students' craft response papers
- C. Students' self-reflections
- D. Class participation, which includes group work

Given the goals and outcomes described above, the primary formats, modes, and methods for teaching and learning that may be used in the course include:

- A. lecture/discussion
- B. small group work
- C. guest speakers, depending on instructor
- D. student collaboration
- E. independent study

VIII. Texts and Materials

- A. suggested textbook: Jason and Lefcowitz, *Creative Writers' Handbook*, latest edition. Pearson.
- B. course packets of published poems and stories
- C. student writing

(Please Note: The course outline is intended only as a guide to course content and resources. Do not purchase textbooks based on this outline. The RVCC Bookstore is the sole resource for the most up-to-date information about textbooks.)

IX. Resources

- A. The library and computer labs provide ample resources for reading published work and printing students' own manuscripts.

B. Service learning support where applicable.

X. Check One: ☐ Honors Course ☐ Honors Options ☒ N/A