

Creative Writing/Journalism

Course Disclosure 2017 - 2018

Clayton Middle School
1470 S. 1900 E.
Salt Lake City, UT 84108



Ms. Kim Perry
kim.perry@slcschools.org
801-481-4810, ext. 2024

Course Description

Creative Writing/Journalism is a half-year course for 7th & 8th grade students. This class will allow students to dabble in several genres of writing, such as poetry, short story, creative nonfiction and short plays.

Course Goals and Objectives

- Students will respond to daily “Kick Starts” – exercises and strategies to help generate ideas and begin the writing process.
- Students will read, analyze, and emulate short works of fiction, nonfiction, poetry, and plays.
- Students will produce one or more writing pieces for publication and or writing contests.
- Students will learn what it means to “polish the paper”.

Course Materials

- Various teacher selected reading materials to enrich our understanding of poetry, fiction, nonfiction, and short plays.
- A variety of ideas, strategies, prompts, and exemplars will come from the following textbooks:
 - *Creative Writing Four Genres in Brief* by David Starkey ISBN-13: 978-1457611568
 - *Write Like This: Teaching Real-World Writing Through Modeling and Mentor Texts* by Kelly Gallagher ISBN 9781571108968
 - *Moe’s Café for Developing Writers* by Mark H. Larson and Robert S. Boone ISBN 1596470887
 - *Image Grammar* by Harry R. Noden ISBN 0867094664

Format and Procedures

Students will

- Write daily
- Read exemplars and discuss the elements of writing in several genres.
- Experiment with writing in several genres, peer respond and edit, and share their work with the class. Students are required to have the following supplies in class everyday:
 - Lined paper
 - Composition Notebook
 - Student planner
 - Pencils, pens, highlighters
 - Flash drive or access to an email account

Course Requirements

- All class members shall work to create a positive learning environment. Appropriate classroom behavior is critical to effective learning. Any behavior that prevents learning is considered inappropriate.
- Daily attendance is most helpful to successful learning. Due to the interactive nature of the class, there are some tasks that cannot be made up. Regular attendance, therefore, is strongly encouraged. When that is not possible each student should have a student from their class they can confer with to keep up with the lessons from the period of their absence. For long absences please contact the counselors to have assignment make-up and late testing arranged.

- Work submitted by each student should reflect their best individual work efforts. While parental guidance is appreciated, the best assessment of growth in content, processes, and skills can be seen in the student’s own efforts.
- Plagiarism is not allowed. Those who plagiarize will receive a zero and an opportunity to resubmit another edit, receiving late credit. Second offenders of plagiarism will not be allowed resubmission, the assignment will have a final score of zero, and a meeting with parents and administration will be scheduled.
- Students who cheat will receive a zero on the assignment. If a student is caught cheating a second time, a meeting with parents will be scheduled. Any subsequent cheating will include student, parent, teacher, and school administration.

Grading

- Assignments past their due date will have a zero in the computer grading program (Power School). Assignments with zeros but marked ‘missing’ may be made up for partial credit, not exceeding a B.
- Late work will be due every midterm and end-of-term. Assignments past the due date, with a score of zero, can’t be made up.
- Citizenship is evaluated against the expectations stated in class, the student planner and school policies. The citizenship grade may not be the same in both classes.
- Power School is the district grade access system. Please use your pin number, when it becomes available, to frequently monitor the progress of your student. Grades for your student in this class will be recorded in the **United States History 2nd period.**

Disclosure Signatures

- Please sign the last page. Keep this document for home and only return the signature page to your NELP teacher.

Notes

Notes

Mrs. Perry, Creative Writing/Journalism, Disclosure Document

Printed Name of Parent

Email address of Parent

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

Printed Name of Student

Student Signature

Date

There will be times that students will collaborate on a project, and working with google docs makes this very easy. To do this, a gmail account needs to be set up.

Tell me something about your student that I don't yet know and would be helpful to both of us.