

## Wallenpaupack Area School District

### Wallenpaupack Area High School

**Course Title:** Creative Writing

**Length of Course:** Semester .5 Credit

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#### **District Policies:**

##### ***Academic Integrity:***

Academic integrity is essential to the success of an educational community. Students are responsible for learning and upholding professional standards of research, writing, assessment, and ethics in their areas of study. Written or other work which students submit must be the product of their own efforts and must be consistent with appropriate standards of professional ethics. Academic dishonesty, which includes cheating, plagiarism, multiple submissions and other forms of dishonest or unethical behavior, is prohibited.

##### ***Assessment:***

The goal of grading is to report student progress and achievement to the parents to strengthen the home-school connection. The grade should accurately reflect the student's performance in mastering the PA Standards and the WASD curriculum.

##### ***Attendance:***

Regular school attendance is vitally important to academic success. Not only does attendance reinforce and enrich the learning process; it also establishes patterns and attitudes that will carry forward into adult work habits. Regular, consistent attendance is a prerequisite to successful school life. Children should be absent only in cases of illness or emergency.

##### ***Special Education:***

Our commitment to each student is to ensure a free appropriate public education which begins with the general education setting, with the use of Supplementary Aids and Services. Inclusive education describes the successful education of all students with the appropriate supports and services to participate in and benefit from the general classroom settings and other educational environments.

#### **Course Description:**

Creative Writing is a semester-long half credit course designed for students who want to spend much time writing creative pieces and who want to develop their writing skills. Forms include short stories, poetry, drama, and ad copy. Students will be encouraged to imaginatively create or re-create narrative and poetic experiences unique to their personalities. Opportunities will be given for students to share their writings with responsive audiences. The writing process is emphasized throughout the course. The course culminates in opportunities for publication and in a project that demonstrates both creativity and learned skills.

#### **Course Objectives:**

##### **Students will demonstrate the ability to:**

- Read, understand, and analyze narrative and poetic forms as models
- Think critically and creatively about literary productions
- Write with the purpose of communicating imaginative fictional pieces
- Use the Writing Process: pre-writing, drafting, revising, editing, proofreading and publishing
- Read and appreciate the creative writings of others
- Use a variety of writing and pre-writing strategies
- Develop creative pieces using a variety of forms: short story, one-act play, ad copy, etc.
- Develop creative poems in a variety of forms: free verse, ballad, sonnet, etc.
- Read and/or perform selected works for an audience
- Use a dictionaries, thesauruses, and on-line resources for word craft and grammar
- Understand and use figurative language in poems and narratives
- Employ free-writing as a strategy to generate ideas, topics, and narratives

- Evaluate the creative work of others
- Work collaboratively with others, including writing partners for revising and editing
- Examine, analyze and evaluate narrative accounts
- Analyze a playwright's use and choice of words
- Read and respond to drama
- Develop projects, including several imaginative documents and visuals based on a theme
- Demonstrate understanding of and competence in the domains of writing
- Ask clarifying questions
- Learn and practice appropriate listening and speaking skills
- Understand, appreciate, and evaluate the advice, strategies, and writing practices of professional authors (e.g., Phillip Margolin, Lauren Oliver, Richard Russo, Joshua Ferris, etc.)

### **Major Activities to Support Course Objectives:**

**Journals:** targeted and self-selected written Responses to prompts designed to elicit fictional narratives via free-writing. Timed writing on topics and themes of interest.

**Projects and Layered Units:** Required and optional activities to show comprehension, analysis, synthesis, and application of writing skills in a variety of formats.

**Research:** Research topics related to the creation of fictional and imaginative texts and projects.

### **Student Responsibilities:**

#### ***Attendance expectations:***

Attendance is central to your success in this class. Due to the nature of this class, the coursework is completed during the class period; therefore, any absence will result in the student missing work which must be completed according to District policy.

#### ***Homework expectations:***

**Make-Up Work:** If students are absent on the day that any assignment (homework, projects, writing assignments, vocabulary, etc.) is due, they are expected to turn in that assignment on the day they return. If students have a prolonged absence due to an extenuating circumstance, a make-up schedule will be provided.

**Late Work:** All work is expected on the date that it is due! However, if students do hand work in late, the late policy is as follows: 10 percent will be deducted the first day, and 10 percent each consecutive day thereafter. After three days, credit will be 50%. If the 50 percent cap is reached, students can only receive a 50% score. The late work policy pertains to all graded work: homework, journals, and essays.

### **Assessment:**

#### ***Grading Components:***

- Fictional Narratives

- Journals
- Short Plays
- Ad Copy
- Poems
- Evaluation based on Pennsylvania Writing Domains (focus, content, organization, style, and conventions)
- Projects
- Class Participation

#### Quarterly Grades

<b>Homework</b>	<b>15-20%</b>
<b>Projects</b>	<b>15-25%</b>
<b>Writing Assignments</b>	<b>40-60%</b>
<b>Journals</b>	<b>15-20%</b>
<b>Class Participation</b>	<b>15-20%</b>

#### Content Pacing Guide:

Topic	Major Assignments	Estimated Time
Fictional imaginative Narrative	<b>Core</b> Use Pre-writing strategies Develop Topic Organize and draft narrative Revise narrative using feedback Re-draft narrative Edit and proofread narrative Publish and present final draft	3 weeks (6-8 blocks)
Poetry Unit 1	<b>Core</b> Examine traditional and contemporary poems Select forms and topic for poems Respond to poetic strategies Use figurative language and imagery Write, present, and evaluate a number of poems	3 weeks (6-8 blocks)
Drama: One Act Play/Skit	<b>Core</b> Examine format and conventions of short plays Develop a cast of characters Develop a plot Use background and stage directions effectively Incorporate directions for emotion tags Write , revise, and edit play based on Writing Process	4 weeks (7-10 blocks)

	Use audience feedback in revision Write, present, and evaluate final draft of short play/skit	
Advertising Copy	<b>Core</b> Examine format and conventions of Ad Copy See models for copy text and visual components Select topic and compose relevant Ad Copy text Develop and revise visual appeals Properly credit copyrighted images/text Write, revise and edit Ad copy based on feedback Write, present, and evaluate final draft of Ad Copy	4 weeks (7-10 blocks)
Narrative Unit 2	<b>Core</b> Use Pre-writing strategies Develop Topic Organize and draft narrative Revise narrative using feedback Re-draft narrative Edit and proofread narrative Publish and present final draft	4weeks (6-10 blocks)
Poetry Unit 2	<b>Core</b> Examine traditional and contemporary poems Select forms and topic for poems Respond to poetic strategies Use figurative language and imagery Use appropriate meter and rhyme scheme Compose a sonnet form Write, present, and evaluate a number of poems	4weeks (6-10 blocks)
Free-writing	Free-write in journal on selected topics Present free-writes to gauge audience appeal for ideas	(On-going, daily, throughout course)
Create a State/World Project	Plan, compose, revise, and edit a theme-based narrative Create a Map and Visitor's Guide in appropriate formats Include required written elements as part of narrative Use figurative language and creative naming	2 weeks