“Amateurs sit and wait for inspiration, the rest of us just get up and go to work.” – Stephen King, On Writing

“[B]ecause the only people for me are the mad ones, the ones who are mad to live, mad to talk, mad to be saved, desirous of everything at the same time, the ones who never yawn or say a commonplace thing, but burn, burn, burn like fabulous yellow roman candles exploding like spiders across the stars and in the middle you see the blue centerlight pop and everybody goes "Awww!" – Jack Kerouac, On The Road

Instructor Information

Instructor: Christopher S. Beaumont
Office: 455
Mailbox: CHARTS 4th Floor
Hours: Office (and Collaboration Center): MW 2:30-3:30 pm; TR 9:30–11 am; R Collaboration Center 12:15-1:30 pm; And by appointment
Phone: 501-812-2399
Email: cbeaumont@uaptc.edu

*All emails and telephone calls will receive a response within two business days.

Chair: Logan Oliver 501-812-2378 loliver@uaptc.edu
Dean: Christy Oberste 501-812-2869 coberste@uaptc.edu

*If your emails and telephone calls do not receive a response within two business days, the appropriate chain of command is above.

Course Information

Creative Writing I, ENGL 2330 25S, CHARTS 224, TR 1:40-2:55 PM

Catalog Description

3 Credit Hours (3 hours lecture per week)

This course helps students gain practical experience in the techniques of writing poetry and fiction.

PREREQUISITE: ENGL 1311 with a grade of “C” or better or consent of instructor.

Course Materials

Your folder and some kind of notebook, journal, etc.

Mission Statement

University of Arkansas – Pulaski Technical College provides access to high-quality education that promotes student learning and enables individuals to develop to their fullest potential.

Institutional Learning Outcomes and General Education

UA-PTC supports a college-wide institutional learning assessment program which concerns effective instructional methods and promotes student learning achievement by assessing:

1. Communication
2. Critical Thinking
3. Cultural Awareness
4. Information Literacy
5. Professionalism
6. Quantitative Literacy
7. Technology Literacy

For more information, please consult the following website: https://uaptc.edu/sla

**Discipline Learning Outcomes**

The English discipline in the Department of Languages and Communication, consistent with the College’s mission and the objectives of the School of Fine Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences, encourages the success of its students in all technical fields and academic disciplines by promoting the following learning outcomes:

1. Students will demonstrate the ability to analyze different contexts and audiences and then to act on that analysis in comprehending and creating texts.
2. Students will demonstrate the ability to analyze, synthesize, interpret, compose, and evaluate ideas, information, situations, and texts.
3. Students will use multiple strategies to conceptualize, develop, and finalize projects and adapt their composing processes to different contexts and occasions.
4. Students will develop knowledge of conventions, including linguistic structures such as grammar, punctuation, and spelling as well as citation and documentation, through practice in composing and revising.
5. Students will investigate significant literary and cultural developments as well as the interaction of various literary and cultural traditions and illustrate how literature reflects history, culture, and society.
6. Students will read and analyze texts and identify various techniques, genre characteristics, movements, methods, or themes.

**Student Learning / Course Outcomes**

ACTS #ENGL 2013

The student will:

1. Generate creative writing projects in both prose and verse.
2. Learn techniques, styles, and forms for imaginative writing.
3. Participate constructively in a workshop environment.
4. Explore structures and techniques used in published fiction and poetry.

Students will read and analyze, with particular attention to structures and techniques, published literary works in a critical manner in order to investigate and study the craft, techniques, styles and forms of creative writing; write in various genres and forms, specifically prose and verse; critique other students’ work, and have their own work critiqued in a constructive workshop environment. As a writer’s workshop community is only as good as the individuals who compose it, each student will be expected to exhibit enthusiasm, ambition, effort, and accomplishment, the necessary qualities for a writer. Students will generate a final portfolio that includes original compositions that demonstrate techniques learned in the course and collaborative writing processes, early drafts, and a self-reflection.

**Policies**

**Report a Complaint or Concern**

UA-PTC takes very seriously complaints and concerns regarding the institution. Most complaints or concerns of a specific nature should be initiated and resolved at the campus level through normal college processes whenever possible. UA - Pulaski Technical College receives and resolves complaints using a variety of methods. To report a complaint or concern, please follow the link below.

https://www.uaptc.edu/report-a-concern-complaint
UA-PTC Attendance Policy

Education at UA-PTC requires students’ active involvement in the learning process. Thus, students are expected to attend all classes and actively engage in all learning assignments and/or opportunities provided in their classes. Class attendance should be treated as mandatory by all students as attendance will be taken by all instructors during the first two weeks of class. Additionally, a written policy on student attendance that is tied to course objectives and included in a course syllabus will be provided for each course by instructors.

Departmental Attendance Policy

Agencies granting financial assistance may be notified of the violation of the attendance policy by students receiving financial aid.

Attendance is taken starting the first day of the semester, with the exception of students who enroll after classes have started. Teachers have the right to count students as absent if they arrive late to class, leave class early, or go in and out of the classroom during class time. Teachers have the right to lower a student’s grade based on excessive absences.

Any student who does not attend class within the first two weeks of class will be considered a “no show” according to the campus attendance policy and will be reported as such and dropped from the class.

Consistent attendance is critical to the successful completion of this course. Students who are absent miss important information from lectures, class discussions, handouts and assessments, and can easily fall behind on the material.

There are no “Excused” absences. No late work will be accepted unless conditions are discussed and agreed upon with instructor BEFORE the original deadline.

Course Policies

The UA-PTC Catalog rules and regulations will be enforced in this course at all times. Please consult the following website for more information: https://www.uaptc.edu/catalog

Professional behavior is required. Punctual attendance and intelligent participation are expected. Particulars as determined by the instructor are detailed in the paragraph below.

Appropriate behavior is expected for all communications, including any notes, email messages, or telephone conversations. Some guidelines for communication are included in this syllabus to help you.

- Please silence your phones and put them away.
- Drink and food are fine.
- Do not be loud. Respect your classmates, your instructor, and yourself.
- No children are allowed in the classroom. It’s school policy.
- Email communication must be through your UAPTC email account and not Blackboard or any external email provider. I won’t even respond (it will likely go directly to SPAM, so I won’t even see it).

My BIG Problem with Late Work and Being Late

- Always behind
- If you find yourself in a hole, stop digging. Ya dig?
- 10% Late-Work-Penalty Rule (per class period)
- If you are thirty minutes (or more late) without emailing me ahead of time, you will receive half of that days allotted attendance/on-class participation points

Cool, Man

- Respecting your classmates, the class, yourself, and me
- Stepping out to text, take/make a call, use the restroom, scream in the stairway, cry, laugh maniacally, etc.
- Quiet Food/Quiet Eating
• CHECKING your email and Blackboard DAILY (Spam box too) – Not in class!

Not Cool, Man: Or how to drive a reasonable-caring-kind-hairy-instructor grumpy
• These are not about YOU (but kind of are, actually) – They are about respecting your classmates, the class, education, and me – these behaviors distract you, but more importantly, they distract me and your classmates.
• Phones/Laptops/Desktops/Mouse Clicks
• Talking when a classmate has the floor or I’m talking
• Prepping to leave before we are done (no zippers zipping)
• No standing up to leave before we’re done
• Please don’t ask me before or after class what you missed – I can’t distill 1:15 minutes into a couple of sentences.
REMEmber: If you miss class, it is YOUR responsibility to contact me or a classmate ahead of the next class for what you missed.

Grading Policy

Letter grades will be based on the following scale:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>90 to 100%</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80 to 89%</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70 to 79%</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60 to 69%</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0 to 59%</td>
<td>F</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Assignments

You will write in at least two genres this semester (fiction and poetry), complete a creative journal, and revise your creative work to submit in your final portfolio. You should work on revising your creative work throughout the semester for this final portfolio project. Keep your versions/drafts! You will read short stories and poems published by authors and written by your classmates, and you will give thoughtful and respectful commentary and critique of the works via class discussion and write-ups (I’ll guide you through this!).

The “Point” System

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course requirements</th>
<th>Percentage of Total Grade for Course</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Creative Journal</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fiction Assignments and Revisions</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poem Assignments and Revisions</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Workshops/Critiques</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attendance/In-Class Participation/Homework</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam Portfolio</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Instructors have one week to provide feedback and post grades for all assignments unless otherwise noted by a departmental policy that has been approved by the Dean of the School.
**English faculty have two weeks to provide feedback and post grades for papers 1000 words or more.

In an online class, eligibility for Financial Aid is based on student participation. Logging into the course does not constitute participation. For purposes of roster certification, students must complete a gradable attendance artifact.
Academic Integrity

It is expected that all students who attend UA-PTC conduct themselves in a manner appropriate for the college experience. Academic integrity is a vital component of collegiate behavior. The UA-PTC catalog states, “The gaining of knowledge and the practice of honesty go hand-in-hand.”

The catalog also states, “The responsibility and authority of initiating discipline arising from violations of the rules against dishonesty during the process of the course are vested in the instructor of that course.”

The complete Academic Integrity Policy is in the UA-PTC code of conduct.

Plagiarism (Just Don’t Do it!)

It is expected that all writing that you submit in a class is your own original work, and that any sources of information that you consult are fully cited and properly integrated into your writing.

Regardless of intent, any paper that contains any form of plagiarism will earn a 0% for the assignment. Most plagiarism is accidental and results from mishandling of research or inadequate citations. Examples of accidental plagiarism include:

- word-for-word copying from any source without the use of quotation marks;
- failure to completely cite all quoted, summarized, or paraphrased material from a presented source;
- improper paraphrasing (i.e., paraphrased information that retains the grammatical structure and/or vocabulary of the original source).

In the case that any student plagiarizes information with the intent of cheating on a writing assignment, the instructor may choose a more severe penalty at their discretion. Examples of blatant plagiarism include:

- submitting any amount of material from the Internet or another outside source as if it is the student’s original composition;
- copying material from a source with no attempt at using quotation marks and/or citation of the source;
- paraphrasing material from a source with no attempt at documentation of the source;
- reuse of material from previous classes without the instructor’s express permission;
- simultaneously using material from another class without the permission of both instructors involved;
- buying papers;
- letting others write part or all of a paper; and
- all other instances in which the student attempts to circumvent creating an original composition for that assignment and/or attempts to deceive the audience about the sources used when composing the assignment.

You should review the information about plagiarism in textbooks and the Academic Integrity Policy in the PTC Student Handbook, as it is your responsibility to demonstrate good scholarship in your writing.

If a student is found to have plagiarized intentionally, that student will be awarded a zero for the assignment and the course immediately. If the student is found to have plagiarized unintentionally, the student will earn a zero until the student and instructor have met and undergone plagiarism rehabilitation. After completion of that program, which could take from one hour to two weeks, the student will be allowed to turn in the assignment again and attempt to earn a grade to replace the zero. The student is expected to do this and stay current in the class and its assignments.

If a student is found to have plagiarized intentionally, that student will be awarded a zero for the assignment and the course immediately. If the student is found to have plagiarized unintentionally, the student will earn a zero until the student and instructor have met and undergone plagiarism rehabilitation. After completion of that program, which could take from one hour to two weeks, the student will be allowed to turn in the assignment again and attempt to earn a grade to replace the zero. The student is expected to do this and stay current in the class and its assignments.
Accommodation Policy

Services for Students with Disabilities: UA-PTC is committed to fulfilling all federal requirements as stated in the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, and the American with Disabilities Amendments Act (ADAAA) of 2008. Accommodations are available to students who have documented disabilities. Students who request accommodations must register with the Disability Services Office (Main Campus: 501-812-2738 or South Campus: 501-812-2862) and must provide current and relevant documentation.

Students requesting accommodations should inform the instructor at the beginning of the course or as soon as accommodations are approved. It is the student's responsibility to provide their Accommodation Letter to the instructor. Accommodations are not retroactive and will only be provided once your instructor receives the Accommodation Letter.

Student Code of Conduct

All students are expected to abide by the UA-PTC Student Code of Conduct. For the full Student Code of Conduct, access the most current version of the UA-PTC Academic Catalog. http://uaptc.azurewebsites.net/docs/default-source/course-catalog/2017-18-academic-catalog.pdf?sfvrsn=a08a3038_2

Sexual Misconduct

No person at Pulaski Technical College will, on the basis of gender, be excluded from participation in, be denied benefits of, or be subjected to sex discrimination, sexual harassment or sexual misconduct under any education program or activity. All college administrative policies and procedures regarding sex discrimination, sexual harassment, and sexual misconduct are in compliance with Title IX. Students who feel they are victims of sexual misconduct should contact the UA-PTC Title IX Deputy Coordinator for Students:

Michelle Anderson, Director of Student Life and Leadership
Campus Center Building Room 216
501-812-2756; manderson@uaptc.edu

Course Evaluations

Students may be asked to evaluate their instructor and course near the end of the semester. These student evaluations are very important to the improvement in the quality of instruction and course materials. All results are anonymous and shared with the faculty only after the semester is over and grades have been posted.

Information Literacy

UA-PTC is committed to the Information Literacy Competency Standards for Higher Education as established by the Association of College and Research Libraries and endorsed by the National Forum on Information Literacy. Therefore, all courses will incorporate an information literacy component so that, by graduation, all students will be able to recognize the need for information, then locate, evaluate, synthesize, and communicate information in an ethical manner. Information literacy encompasses critical thinking, research, media, technology, health, business, and visual literacy skills to produce lifelong learners who can make informed decisions in the workplace and in their personal lives.

Tentative Course Schedule

This schedule is a guide for the semester. The instructor reserves the right to amend the schedule as necessary. We’ll likely have mini-syllabi for each “Part” listed below.

“The scariest moment is always just before you start.” – Stephen King, On Writing

Part I: Introduction to Course, Classmates, Instructor, Writing, Reading, Craft, Prompts, Workshops, etc.
“If you want to be a writer, you must do two things above all others: read a lot and write a lot.” – Stephen King, *On Writing*

Part II: Fiction Reading, Writing, Work-shopping, etc.

“You must not come lightly to the blank page.” – Stephen King, *On Writing*

Part III: Poetry Reading, Writing, Work-shopping, etc.

“Writing isn’t about making money, getting famous, getting dates, getting laid, or making friends. In the end, it's about enriching the lives of those who will read your work, and enriching your own life, as well. It's about getting up, getting well, and getting over. Getting happy, okay? Getting happy...you can, you should, and if you're brave enough to start, you will.” – Stephen King, *On Writing*

Part IV: Dénouement - Portfolio Preparation

**Important Dates**

Midterm (Woo!): Week of T 03/13 & R 03/15

SPRING BREAK!: T 03/19 & R 03/21 – No Class. Don’t get arrested (if you do, don’t call me – and write about it!).

Beaumont in Portland, Oregon for AWP: R 03/28 - No Class. By the end of class time, you’ll email me an assignment (TBD).

AWP Debrief : T 04/02

Final Portfolio “Exam” Due: T 05/07 1:30-3:30 pm

Commencement: S 05/11 – 10 a.m. Verizon Arena

Grades Due: M 05/13

“If you expect to succeed as a writer, rudeness should be the second-to-least of your concerns. The least of all should be polite society and what it expects. If you intend to write as truthfully as you can, your days as a member of polite society are numbered, anyway.” – Stephen King, *On Writing*
Course Agreement Form

Read, complete, and return to instructor:

I have read the course syllabus for *Christopher S. Beaumont’s Creative Writing I* class at Pulaski Technical College, and I understand its content. I also understand the rules for the class, and I will follow and abide by these rules, including those relating to attendance, assignments, grading criteria, plagiarism, and behavior.

__________________________
Semester

__________________________
Date

__________________________
Print name

__________________________
Signature

__________________________
UA-PTC Email address

__________________________
Telephone