



## Creative Writing 1

Ms. Brittany Armstrong

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### About the Course

This course is designed to help prepare you to become more competent in writing within the disciplines of short story, poetry, and drama. You will work hard to master the drafting, editing, revising, critiquing, and creative thinking skills necessary to become a better writer. We will be reading from a variety of mentor texts, focusing on different skill-sets and styles which we can pull from to use in our own writing. Each week we will focus on a different skill or element that we will work to enhance. I expect you to come to class having read texts that are assigned, produce at least one original work each week, and bring drafts to class to participate in peer-critique. A strong emphasis will be placed on participation and a willingness to practice, this means revising and editing based on feedback from both myself and classmates. This class will be a safe space to try out new techniques, toy with new ideas, and think outside the box when it comes to your writing. The more you are willing to participate and share your writing and ideas with others, the more we will all grow as writers.

### Materials

You are expected to bring to class:

- pencil or pen
- writer's notebook (I will provide this)
- our current reading
- any drafts of current writing projects
- 3-ring binder with 1 section specifically devoted to this class
- Your SLCSE planner

### Grading Policies

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#### 60% Effort

Participation, Classwork, Homework

#### 40% Product

Writing Portfolio due at the end of each quarter

- If you need an extension on an assignment, you need to speak with me at least 1 day before the assignment is due. Late work will be accepted but will be docked 50%. For example, if a homework assignment is worth 10 points and you turn it in late, the highest amount of points you may receive is 5.
- If you are absent, you have one week to make up the missed work, unless other arrangements have been made.
- If you need help schedule a time to come work with me, or go to the Homework Hall after school.
- Grades at the end of each term (quarter) are FINAL.
- Plagiarism is considered an act of academic dishonesty and more seriously, property theft. If an assignment is plagiarized it will receive 0% and disciplinary action will be taken.

## Class Behavior Expectations

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1. Be on time—in your seat when the bell rings
2. Be prepared—have your materials with you
3. No cell phones/electronic devices used during class time unless specified to do so
4. Be respectful—of others' identities, ideas, belongings, and personal space
5. Leave no trace. Pick up your stuff, push in your chairs and put things where they belong.

**One final word:** We will be reading a variety of texts this year that will bring up controversial topics, ideas and events which we will be discussing during class time. We will also be reading classmates' writing which can be personal and which they have certainly worked very hard on. Being respectful of others' ideas, beliefs, thoughts, observations, opinions, and work is imperative and will be expected at all times. My classroom is a safe space for all people to ask questions, share ideas, and to be themselves.

Dear families,

If you have any questions or concerns please reach me via email at: [brittany.armstrong@slcschools.org](mailto:brittany.armstrong@slcschools.org).

I look forward to working with both you and your student this year!

Thank you,

Brittany Armstrong

I have read the above disclosure.

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Print student name

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Parent signature and date

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Cell phone

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Student signature

Date

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Parent email