Grade 12 - Creative Writing: Unit 1 - Exploring the Self through Narrative

Unit Focus

Students will read personal narratives and craft their own. From journal entries to a developed personal narrative, they will experiment with voice, style, scene building, exploded moments, imagery, time, and place.

Stage 1: Desired Results - Key Understandings

Standard(s)

Common Core
English Language Arts: 11-12

- Analyze how an author's choices concerning how to structure specific parts of a text (e.g., the choice of where to begin or end a story, the choice to provide a comedic or tragic resolution) contribute to its overall structure and meaning as well as its aesthetic impact. (CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.11-12.5)
- Develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach, focusing on addressing what's most significant for a specific purpose and audience. (CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.11-12.5)

Madison Public Schools Profile of a Graduate

- Self-Awareness: Examining current performance critically to identify steps/ strategies to persist. (POG.4.1)

Transfer

Students will be able to independently use their learning to...
T1 Effectively use a medium to communicate important findings, ideas, feelings, etc. for a given purpose.
T2 Generate and capture ideas (e.g., from mentor authors, personal experiences) to explore in writing.
T3 Use the writing process to thoughtfully produce and publish with a variety of tools for many intended audiences, purposes and messages.

Meaning

Understanding(s)

Students will understand that...
U1 Writing is never finished.
U2 Writers write what they know
U3 Writers read to grow and change their thinking
U4 Writers recognize that authors convey ideas both directly and indirectly.
U5 Writers share their work to solicit feedback

Essential Question(s)

Students will keep considering...
Q1 How do readers and writers collaborate to come to a new understanding of experiences?
Q2 How do techniques/craft moves authors use impact the meaning of the text?
Q3 How can I draw from the raw materials of my life to tell a story?

Acquisition of Knowledge and Skill

Knowledge

Students will know...
K1 memoir, narrative, personal narrative, prose, retrospective, snapshot, thought shot, exploded moment, verb tense, show don't tell, scene, flashback, figurative language, rich descriptive language, digression, sequence
K2 How to weave elements together to create a story.

Skill(s)

Students will be skilled at...
S1 How to incorporate figurative language into their writing
S2 How to begin and end a story
S3 How to edit the writing of others
S4 How to respond to peer editing by making changes in their writing
S5 How to organize a multilayered sequenced narrative