

Creative Writing: Syllabus 2026-2027



Mr. Wilkinson

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My Schedule:

A Day		B Day
1st: Planning	8:55 - 10:32	5th: Planning
2nd: English II	10:38 - 12:09	6th: Advisory/Flex
3rd: Creative Writing	12:14 - 1:00 / 1:30 - 2:19	7th: English II
4th: English II	2:25 - 3:55	8th: English II

Course Description: Creative Writing is a one-semester English elective course designed to engage students in the writing of poetry, short fiction, personal narratives, and other genres with an emphasis on developing and exercising imagination. Students will read closely for multiple purposes to analyze and evaluate exemplary texts to develop creative writing skills. Students will critique and refine writing through guided discussions, collaborative revisions, and individual reflections. Students will produce a portfolio of creative work that reflects student growth and understanding of the techniques of published authors. Students will share writing in a variety of ways and research methods for publishing original work.

Required Materials (in general and each day):

- Chromebook
- Independent Reading
 - We do not have a textbook or required text for this course, but there may be times when you are finished working on an assignment and have some downtime. You are expected to read quietly during this time.
- Pencil/Pen

Unit Schedule (Order May Vary):

Unit 1: Short Fiction

Unit 3: Poetry

Unit 5: Revision & Publishing

Unit 2: Creative Nonfiction

Unit 4: Playwriting

Grades: Student's course grades will be determined entirely by their evidence of learning of course standards (100% weight). Students may also receive practice/homework grades as feedback to track their progress in this course (0% weight).



Students will also receive feedback in HAC (Home Access Center) on the achievement of learning habits at least quarterly. Learning habits assessed will be time management and engagement in learning. Students will receive marks of either DC (Demonstrates Consistently), IC (Progressing, but Inconsistent) or NY (Not Yet, Rarely, or Not Observed).

Assignments: This is not a comprehensive list, and it is subject to change, but the following are assignments you can expect to complete in my class:

- Short stories
- Literary Analysis
- Dialogue Exercises
- Written Poems
- Short Play Scripts
- Non-Fiction Writing
- Research Projects

Late Work: Creative Writing students are expected to turn in all assignments on time. Grades and missing work will be checked frequently. Students will also be expected to monitor their own grades. Students will be informed of all final dates for accepting late work in advance. Failure to turn in assignments on time may result in disciplinary action. If a student is absent, it is his/her responsibility to check Google Classroom for missed work and to complete the work in a timely manner.

Academic Integrity: All forms of academic dishonesty are prohibited. Some examples include plagiarism, cheating, helping someone cheat, or tampering with grades and/or testing materials. For a more thorough discussion, refer to the BHS student handbook.

AI Policy: All usage of AI programs in this class is **strictly prohibited** without prior approval from the teacher. Before incorporating any AI tool into an assignment or activity, you must discuss your intent with the teacher. If approval is granted, you must properly cite and attribute AI-generated content. **There will be no exceptions to this rule.**

Behavior Expectations:

- Be seated and working quietly on provided warm-up activities when the bell rings.
- Be in class on time. Excessive tardiness will result in disciplinary action.
- If you must leave the room, you must sign out, take the hall pass, and **leave your phone in the classroom**. Students are expected to return to class in a timely manner.
- It is fine for students to bring a **small** snack into class in order to tide them over before lunch or before the end of the day. However, these snacks and their accompanying packaging should not leave any mess or require utensils. **Due to student allergies, food containing nuts will not be allowed.**
- Students are to wear their student IDs with the provided lanyards throughout the school day.
- Above all, students are expected to be respectful and kind to other students, faculty, staff, and visitors.
- All school rules will be enforced. See the discipline step plan in the student handbook for further details.



Community Service Learning

- Students will receive 1.5 hours of Community Service Learning per semester, for a total of 3 hours in the school year. Since Creative Writing is a one-semester course, students will complete a Creative Community Service assignment/project and receive 1.5 hours of community service for the semester.

Technology:

- **Students must bring a charged Chromebook to class every day. Charging your Chromebook during class will not be permitted.** If a student does not bring his/her Chromebook to class, he/she will have to complete all assignments by hand. **Frequently not bringing a charged Chromebook to class may result in additional discipline.**
- Students will not use Chromebooks unless directed to do so, though we will use them for a portion of class almost every day.

Communication:

- Home Access Center (HAC): Check grades and attendance on Home Access Center for up-to-date information. For questions or support, email bhshomeaccess@bentonvillek12.org.
- Google Classroom: Each class has a Google Classroom, and almost all instructional materials and assignments will be available through it. It can be accessed from home as well as school. Parents will be invited to receive status updates through Google Classroom.
- eMail: I will email parents/guardians using the information listed in HAC.