

## **Advanced Creative Writing**

UC/CSU "g" approved/NCAA approved (1 unit max)

Grade Level: 10-12

Estimated Work Outside of Class: 1-2 hrs per week

### **Course Description:**

In Advanced Creative Writing, students build on the foundational skills developed in Creative Writing while taking on more independence. In the first semester, students will conduct two genre investigations—either in poetry, fiction, nonfiction/memoir, or drama. In each investigative unit, students will study the craft and techniques of their genre, while writing longer pieces or collections of writing. In the second semester, students propose and embark on a semester-long, independent writing project in a genre of their choice: either a poetry collection, a multi-act drama, a collection of short stories, or a fiction or nonfiction piece. The work must total at least 50 pages. Simultaneously, they will follow a mentor author in their genre, conducting research into their craft and technique. At the end of the year, students will learn about the publishing process, such as self-publishing vs. using an agent. Students in Advanced Creative Writing are required to submit at least one writing sample to El Sol, the school's literary and arts magazine.

### **Prerequisite:**

Completion of Creative Writing with a B or better

### **Recommended Prerequisite Skills:**

Advanced Creative Writing is for students who have a love of storytelling and exploring the limitless possibilities of writing creatively! Students must be able to manage their time to complete longer, semester-length, independent projects and writing assignments.

### **Course Grade Categories:**

- Creative Writing Pieces - 60%
- Writing Development - 30% (participation in peer workshops, rough drafts of major writing pieces, etc.)
- Independent Practice - 10%

### **Major Assessments/Units/Topics:**

#### **Each unit includes:**

- Writing Piece(s) or Project/Presentation
- Independent Practice - Brainstorming, outlining, drafting, writing check-ins
- Engagement in Writer's Workshops or giving class presentations

### **Outline:**

Unit 1: Craft and Technique Review

Unit 2: Genre Investigation I

Unit 3: Genre Investigation II

**Semester Final – Portfolio**

Unit 4: Mentor Author Research

Unit 5: Craft and Technique in Selected Genre

Unit 7: Publishing

**Semester Final – 50+ Page Manuscript and Agent Query Letter**