

Brunswick School Department
English Department
Grade 12 Creative Writing

Course Overview

The course consists of practicing specific techniques of plot, dialog, point of view, characterization, and use of figurative language. Emphasis will be on the short story, and students will complete a final story. This is a workshop in which students will be expected to discuss and share their work.

Essential Understandings

- Writers choose their language to suit a purpose.
- Developing a conflict is what drives a narrative.
- Writing is a process.
- Knowledge of grammar and syntax is essential.
- Effective criticism must be structured, constructive, and specific.

Priority Standards and Performance Indicators

(as based on Maine Learning Results)

P.S ELA-2 Reading Analysis: Cite strong and thorough textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text, including determining where the text leaves matters uncertain.

- a. Evaluate the relevant themes and synthesize how they are present in the novel in oral and written responses.
- b. Interpret the implications of setting and circumstance.
- c. Analyze the role of characters in the plot in oral and written responses.
- d. Analyze important quotations from the text in oral and written responses.
- e. Annotate the text.

P.S ELA-3 Reading Craft and Structure Determine an author's point of view or purpose in a text in which the rhetoric is particularly effective, analyzing how style and content contribute to the power, persuasiveness or beauty of a text.

- b, Analyze the plot and/or design of the text, following shifts in time and place.

P.S ELA-4 Writing Analysis: Write arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topics or texts, using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence.

- e. Apply the standards of English conventions.

P.S ELA-5 Writing Craft: Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.

- b. Use showing details v. telling details.

P.S. ELA-7 Speaking and Listening: Engage effectively in well-reasoned exchange of ideas

- a. Attentively listen to the words of a speaker.
- d. Use evidence to support a position.
- f. Use annotations of the text to contribute to class discussion.

Examples of Formative / Summative Assessments

- Read-outs of in-class writing exercises
- Practice critiques
- Formal oral presentation/analysis of a text chosen by the student as an example of good writing
- Exercises in specific techniques that have been modelled and practiced
- Oral critiques of peer writing
- Final, revised and polished short story

Sample Texts and Materials/Resources

- *On Writing*, by Stephen King
- *How to Read like a Professor* by Thomas C. Foster
- *Reading like a Writer* by Francine Prose
- *The Moment*, Larry Smith, ed.