

E n g l i s h

English 322 | Creative Writing I | 3 Credits
Summer 2012

6524 | 9:00 a.m. – 11:15 a.m. | MTWHF | Morrill 105

I n s t r u c t o r

Brady Bergeson

Office Hours:

Morrill 206

231-5052

brady.bergeson@ndsu.edu

after class or by appointment

R e q u i r e d T e x t s

Copies: Be prepared to print a large number of copies to bring work to class for peer review and for your final chapbook assignment.

Blackboard: We will use Blackboard to keep up to date on readings and assignments.

B u l l e t i n D e s c r i p t i o n

Imaginative writing with an emphasis on exploring multiple genres, developing critical awareness, and becoming acquainted with the literary fine arts.

O u t c o m e s

Each course in the upper-division writing curriculum is different, but they all emphasize the same two General Education Outcomes:

G.E. Outcome 1: Students will learn to communicate effectively in various genres for different audiences, purposes, and situations.

G.E. Outcome 6: Students will learn to integrate knowledge and ideas in a coherent and meaningful manner.

Each course will also emphasize the following English department goal:

Students will learn to manage sophisticated writing and research projects, planning, documenting, completing, and assessing work on time and within the constraints of the project.

All students in upper-division writing courses will be asked to produce a portfolio of work by the end of the semester, with at least 3 distinct genres, a reflective cover letter, and approximately 18 pages of finished text (allowances made for design features).

P o l i c i e s

Special Needs: In keeping with the Americans with Disabilities Act, I would encourage students with disabilities who need accommodations in this course to contact me as soon as possible so that the appropriate arrangements can be made to accommodate particular needs. This syllabus can be made available in alternative formats upon request.

Academic Dishonesty/Plagiarism: The academic community is operated on the basis of honesty, integrity, and fair play. NDSU Policy 335: Code of Academic Responsibility and Conduct applies to cases in which cheating, plagiarism, or other academic misconduct have occurred in an instructional context. Students found guilty of academic misconduct are subject to penalties, up to and possibly including suspension and/or expulsion. Student academic misconduct records are maintained by the Office of Registration and Records. Informational resources about academic honesty for students and instructional staff members can be found at www.ndsu.edu/academichonesty.

Academic Honesty Defined: All written and oral presentations must “respect the intellectual rights of others. Statements lifted verbatim from publications must be cited as quotations. Ideas, summaries or paraphrased material, and other information taken from the literature must be properly referenced” (*Guidelines for the Presentation of Disquisitions*, NDSU Graduate School, 4).

English Department Policy on Plagiarism. Instructors in the English department try to distinguish between inadvertent and deliberate plagiarism. Initial instances of inadvertent plagiarism will be pointed out and revision will be expected; deliberate plagiarism may result in zero for an assignment, possible F for the course. See the English department guidelines for more details: <http://www.ndsu.edu/ndsu/english/view.php?ArtID=165>

Code of Student Behavior: All interactions in this course will be civil and show respect for others. Student conduct at NDSU is governed by the Code of Student Behavior: <http://www.ndsu.edu/ndsu/vpsa/code/>

A t t e n d a n c e

In compliance with NDSU University Senate Policy, Section 333: Class Attendance and Policy and Procedure, located at <<http://www.ndsu.nodak.edu/policy/333.htm>>, the English Department has established the following attendance policy. All English Department courses require active learning. Students are expected to speak, listen, and contribute. Therefore,

prompt, regular attendance is required. Students who miss more than four weeks of class during the standard academic semester (e.g. twelve 50 minute classes, eight 75 minute classes, or their equivalent) will not pass the course. Moreover, each student is accountable for all work missed because of absence, and instructors have no obligation to make special arrangements for missed work.

***You are allowed two absences (this is 270 total minutes; a regular semester week is 150 minutes so this is the equivalent of nearly two weeks) with no penalty. **Absences totaling more than two will result in a lower final grade.** Absences beyond two will be lowered by the following percentages: 3=5%; 4=10%. If you miss 5 classes you will automatically fail the class (see policy above).

A s s i g n m e n t s

Fiction (at least one short story >1,500 words)	25%
Poetry (a group of 10 poems)	25%
Screenplay	25%
<i>(Note: Because we are a small group, we may adjust these genres based on interest)</i>	
Workshop	10%
Working Pages & Daily Assignments	5%
Chapbook & Letter	10%

W o r k s h o p

The workshop grade is based on participation, submitting your own work and commenting on the work of others.

Responding:

Your response should be focused on the writer's use of craft elements and asking questions, not on comments of personal taste. You can dislike a piece because it's content or style is not something you enjoy but you should be able to value its effectiveness in terms of craft.

The ability to read and offer specific, constructive feedback to classmates and colleagues is an important skill. And, remember, these are drafts in progress and will all need work. We are not editing or fixing people's work. We are offering responses based on the concepts and elements we will be discussing in class.

C h a p b o o k

At the end of the semester you will present all of (or selections from) your work in a chapbook. This is an opportunity to present revised work at the end of the semester and consider sharing it with a public audience. The grade for the chapbook will be based on revision, presentation and a cover letter that discusses your work from the semester. (More specifics on the chapbook will follow.)

E v a l u a t i o n

Your grade will be based on your ability to apply elements from our discussions in your work.

A — Excellent work that successfully applies the elements of the genre. Meets stated criteria and excels in engaging and affecting a reader with originality and inventiveness. In general, a sophisticated piece of writing with strong use of language. Well edited and proofread.

B — Very good work that is successful applying many of the elements of the genre, but may be lacking in a few areas. Might have flashes of excellence but noticeable areas for improvement. Meets stated criteria but may lack originality. May have a good sense of language but lack consistency. Clear understanding of the genre. Well edited and proofread.

C — Good work that is successful applying some of the elements of the genre but is lacking in many areas. Might be inventive work but lack competence. Might be competent but lack inventiveness. The writing may be uninspired or sloppy. Poor editing and proofreading.

D — Poor work that is severely lacking. Does not meet basic requirement. Lacks an understanding of the elements of the genre.

F — Unacceptable. Fails to meet criteria.

S c h e d u l e

Due to the compacted time frame of the summer session we will adapt our schedule a few days at a time depending on how fast we move through material. Each day will most likely consist of a combination of craft discussion, analysis of creative works, writing exercises and prompts, and workshop of drafts. Drafts for evaluation will be due on Mondays.

Week 1: Image, Voice, Character, Setting, Story

Week 2: Fiction

Week 3: Poetry

Week 4: Workshop & Revision

(Subject to change. And probably will.)

August:	23	Introductions, Syllabus
	25	READ: <i>Imaginative Writing</i> , Chapters 1 & 2
September:	30	READ: <i>IW</i> , Chapters 3, 4 & 5
	1	READ: <i>IW</i> , Chapters 6 & 7
	6	READ: <i>IW</i> , Chapter 10
	8	Working Pages Small Groups
	13	READ: <i>IW</i> , Chapter 9
	15	Working Pages Small Groups
	20	Workshop
	22	Workshop; DUE: Fiction or Poetry pages for initial grades
	27	Tommy Zurhellen visit (Public reading at 7 p.m. in Memorial Union Gallery)
	29	Workshop
October:	4	Working Pages Small Groups
	6	Workshop
	11	READ: <i>IW</i> , Chapter 11
	13	Workshop
	18	Workshop
	20	Working Pages Small Groups; DUE: Fiction or Poetry pages
	25	Workshop
	27	Workshop
November:	1	Working Pages Small Groups
	3	Workshop
	8	Workshop
	10	Workshop
	15	Workshop
	17	Workshop
	22	DUE: Drama pages
	24	NO CLASS
	29	Chapbooks

December:	1	Workshop
	6	In-Class Reading
	8	LAST DAY; In-Class Reading; DUE: Chapbook