*Creative Writing*

*Syllabus*

**Contact Info:**

Ms. Grace

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(660) 463-7235 ext. 122

# Course Description

Creative Writing is designed for students to create original forms of descriptive writing, poetry, drama and fiction. In this class, we will discuss and put into practice a variety of writing techniques. The student’s goal is to grow intellectually as a writer and a reader and to determine which aspect of creative writing most appeals to them. They will be assessed through projects, quizzes, tests, class discussion, and writing assignments. Computers and word processing are used for composition. Writings are presented orally and in written form.

# Course Objectives

The students will be able to:

* Create and edit original sentences.
* Evaluate the effectiveness of a well-written narrative.
* Identify the steps in creating characters for a story.
* Identify, analyze, and create a well-developed plot.
* Explain the parts of speech and their basic functions in a sentence.
* Develop original pieces of work utilizing various strategies.
* Evaluate the usefulness, or lack thereof, of a source (both Internet and non-Internet).
* Understand poetry language in music. (Rhythm, lineation, meter, etc.)
* Recognize patterns and variations in poetry.
* Organize a portfolio of original works.

# Class expectations

1. Be Respectful
	1. Listen attentively
	2. Follow all directions promptly
	3. Ask for assistance in an appropriate manner
	4. Use an appropriate voice level
2. Be Responsible
	1. Participate in class appropriately
	2. Continue working until assigned task is finished, and then review work
	3. Turn in homework on time
3. Be YOUR Best
	1. Remain in your seat
	2. Complete homework with 100% accuracy and honesty
	3. Read a book or work on other homework when finished with the assignment

**Supply list**

* Writing utensils
* Spiral Notebook
* Folder OR 1” binder
* Sticky notes

# Grades

Students’ success depends upon completion of all assignments and mastery of skills that are taught. Grades will be earned through participation, homework assignments, journals, quizzes, tests, and a comprehensive final each semester. Grades are taken ***only*** to gauge student learning. Because grades are not taken daily, students need to constantly demonstrate their full potential on given assignments to maintain a passing grade in class. The grades are recorded in the STI program online; you are able to check on your child’s grade at any time with a username and password. Grade Reports will be issued to students every 2 ½ weeks and upon the completion of each quarter.

**Homework**

Homework is given so that students have the opportunity to demonstrate their learning in class. Students will be given class time to complete the assignments, but what is not completed during class time will be assigned to finish that evening to turn in the following day. Homework assignments are due at the beginning of class and will be considered late if not turned in when collected. Homework may consist of essays, projects, presentations, and reading. Extra credit is not given to individual students. If extra credit is offered, it will be offered to the entire class.

**Late Work**

 Given that this class is structured to build on everything that we do, late work will not receive full credit. It is the student’s responsibility to come to class prepared so that we can build on the assignment and move forward. Each day that the assignment is late, it will be docked 20%. Once the assignment is two days late, it will not be accepted for credit.

**Cheating/Plagiarism**

The district policy for cheating is defined as “knowingly using inappropriate means to aid in the performance of a test/quiz/or assignment” page fourteen. The test/quiz/ or assignment will receive a grade of zero and will be reported to the principal. Plagiarism is defined by Merriam-Webster as “the act of using another’s production without crediting the source.” Plagiarism is not acceptable and will not be tolerated and will result in a score of zero on the assignment and having the assignment turned in to the principal as well.

**Attendance Policy**

Class attendance is mandatory and could affect the final grade. Advance arrangements for unavoidable absences should be made. Students are responsible to meet all course requirements regardless of absences.

Per the attendance policy stated in the student handbook, a student shall be allowed a maximum of ten (10) unexcused absences from any class during any class during a semester. Students who accumulate in excess of ten (10) days in any class are subject to loss of credit for that class.

The student is responsible for obtaining the missed assignments, notes, and information; they may come in before or after school to speak with me about making up the missing work. All assigned work while absent shall be submitted **within two days** upon returning to school. Any work not turned in within two days will receive a zero and cannot be made up.

 Students are required to be in their assigned seat when the bell rings to avoid a tardy. To be excused from a tardy, a note needs to be presented upon entering the classroom.

**Cell Phone Policy**

With the increased use of cell phones and the distractions to the learning environment as well as safety

issues that go along with that use, it is important that students be vigilant when it comes to monitoring their

cell phone use. Cell phones need to be put away and not used during class and tutoring. Students may use

cell phones during passing time, but only in the halls (this privilege can be revoked at any time during the

year by the principal). If needed, a student can come to the office and ask for permission to use his/her phone. Audio or image recording, whether through picture or video, without prior consent of the individuals being recorded is prohibited.

**Leaving the classroom**

Students will need a hall pass in their possession at all times after receiving permission to leave during class. Students are responsible for obtaining any material covered in class while they out of the room.

**Contact Information**

 At any point, if you have a question concerning your child, please contact me. The fastest way to contact me is through email. My email address is kgrace@concordia.k12.mo.us. This is the fastest and most effective mode of communication.

Please complete and return the following form by August 23rd, 2019.

I have read and understand the expectations of this Creative Writing course.

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Printed Student Name

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Signature of Student Date

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Printed Name of parent or guardian

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Signature of parent or guardian Date

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Parent or guardian email address Phone number