

LIFELONG LEARNING

PERSONAL ENRICHMENT CLASSES FOR INQUISITIVE ADULTS

Creative Writing I

Lifelong Learning Class (LLWRC 780)
Summer 2022

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Creative Writing I

Class Description: This course will focus on a group of specific techniques for shaping and informing your writing, including voice, tone, and point of view; use of tense; and use of detail. Through analysis and discussion of sample texts and numerous in-class exercises, we will work toward achieving vivid precision and the creation of a short story that is either fiction or nonfiction. Each session will focus on a different area and group of related tools; come prepared to read, write, and talk. **This class explores adult themes, language, and content.**

Class Goal: Explore writing as an art and learn specific techniques for effective and evocative creation. Students should come away from this class feeling more confident that their writing matches their intentions.

Class Syllabus

Week 1: Prologue

Introduction
Character
Plot

Homework for week 2

STUDY: Standard Manuscript Format
STUDY: Guideline for Critique Sessions
PREWRITE: Character Worksheet
PREWRITE: Points & Pacing Worksheet #1
WRITE: 1-3 Six Word Stories
READ: "The Last Leaf"

Week 2: The plot thickens

Theme
Author Palette
Story Elements

Homework for week 3

Theme Worksheet
Points and Pacing Worksheet #2
WRITE: Description with Mood
READ: "Everyday Use"

Week 3: Once upon a time...

Beginnings

Homework for week 4

WRITE: Beginning Hook
READ: "To Build a Fire"

Week 4: The muddled middle

Tension and Suspense
Exposition
Dialog
Action

Homework for week 5

WRITE: Five Easy Pieces
READ: "The Yellow Wallpaper"

Week 5: ...happily ever after?

Climaxes
Endings
Beats and cliffhangers

Homework for week 6

STUDY: Editing Tips
WRITE: 2-3 page Flash Fiction
READ: "The Ledge"

Week 6: Denouement

Editing strategies
Continuing the path
Groups and goals
Workshop

Homework

Keep it up!

CONTINUING
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