

Name of School:

Name of Course: **Writers' Studio**

Instructor Information

Name:
E-mail address:
School phone number:
Web page address:
Best times to be reached:

Course Description

Writer's Studio is designed for the student who is interested in producing a variety of creative written works. Through guidelines provided by the instructor, students participate in creative writing projects, resulting in the development of a personal anthology. This course involves individual as well as group learning experiences/projects.

District Standards and Power Benchmarks

Standard: Students will apply reading, writing, and speaking skills to communicate effectively.

Grade Level Benchmarks:

- Students will be able to utilize the writing process to communicate.
- Students will be able to write for different audiences and purposes.
- Students will be able to use a variety of techniques to convey personal style and voice.
- Students will be able to analyze and evaluate a literary selection.
- Students will be able to employ *Pathways to Knowledge Research Model* throughout writings involving research.
- **Expert:** Students will be able to prepare at least one extended research project using a variety of sources and selecting from a variety of reporting modes.

Course Information

Writer's Studio is a one-term .5 credit course that fulfills the Language Arts Communication group requirement for 11th and 12th grades. There are no prerequisites.

Course Outline/Calendar

Students will write both fiction and non-fiction in a variety of genres such as narration, poetry, and drama:

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|--|---|
| a. Creative Writing | Project: Personal Memoir |
| b. Critical Analysis | Project: Review |
| c. Fiction Writing | Project: Short Story |
| d. Drama/Film | Project: Radio Play/Screenplay |
| e. Poetry | Project: Five Poems for Anthology |
| f. Writing for Mass Media | Project: Newscast or Advertising Project |
| g. Required academic vocabulary instruction | |
| h. ACT Skills: English | |

Text/Other Required Materials/Resources

- No text
- Spiral notebook
- Loose-leaf paper
- Pen, pencil, and eraser
- USB or disk

Additional Texts/Materials/Resources

Instructional Procedures & Support

- A variety of teaching methods and strategies will be used, e.g., direct instruction, cooperative groups, graphic organizers, note-taking, QARs, and Read Alouds.
- District Literacy Initiative strategies will be used.
- Students will receive verbal and written instructions for major assignments.
- Students may come in for additional assistance before or after school. A time should be arranged with the teacher in advance.
- After an absence, students are responsible for checking with the instructor about make-up work and deadlines. A time should be arranged with the teacher.
- Students will be expected to work on assignments both during and outside of class time. Some class time may be given for word processing; however, some typing may need to be completed outside of class.
- **ACT Skills: English**

Classroom Management Procedures

Assessment Plan

Students' grades are figured by points; the total points earned are divided by the total points possible to arrive at a percentage. Student writing will be assessed using the District Writing Rubric and teacher created rubrics specific to particular writing assignments.

Grading System

Points accumulate for daily assignments, writing assignments, projects, presentations, quizzes, and tests. Points are divided by the total possible for the grading period to produce a percentage. The Davenport Community Schools' district percentage grading scale and grading periods are as follows:

Quarter	Mid Term	End of Quarter
Quarter 1	Sept. 20, 2010	Oct. 20, 2010
Quarter 2	Nov. 17, 2010	Dec. 21, 2010
Quarter 3	Feb. 4, 2011	Mar. 9, 2011
Quarter 4	Apr. 20, 2011	May 24, 2011

A	93 and above	Firm command of knowledge domain High level of skill development
A⁻	90 - 92	Exceptional preparation for later learning
B⁺	87 - 89	Command of knowledge beyond the basic concepts of knowledge Advanced development of most skills
B	83 - 86	Has prerequisites for later learning
B⁻	80 - 82	
C⁺	77 - 79	Command of the basic concepts of knowledge Demonstrates ability to use basic skills
C	73 - 76	Lacks a few prerequisites for later learning
C⁻	70 - 72	
I		The letter "I" indicates the student has not satisfactorily achieved the grade/course-level benchmarks and/or has missing work. "I" status is temporary and not a final grade. The letter "I" may affect athletic eligibility.
D⁺	67 - 69	Lacks knowledge of some fundamental ideas Some important skills not attained

D	63 - 66	Some important skills not attained
D-	60 – 62	Deficient in many of the prerequisites for later learning
F	59 and below	Most of the basic concepts and principles not learned Most essential skills have not been demonstrated Lacks most prerequisites needed for later learning