CENTRAL TEXAS COLLEGE
SYLLABUS FOR ENGL 2308
CREATIVE WRITING II

Semester Hours Credit: 3

INSTRUCTOR: _____________________________

OFFICE HOURS: __________________________

I. INTRODUCTION

Course Overview and description:
Process of developing, outlining, writing, and submitting a novel for publication using the methods and techniques based on Karen S. Wiesner’s First Draft in 30 Days and her From First Draft to Finished Novel.

A. English 2308 provides practical experience in the techniques of imaginative writing. It is designed to engage students in practical criticism and contemporary trends while emphasizing the development of creative skills. Students will receive guidance and instruction in the skills and craft necessary to construct a successful, completed outline of a novel.

B. English 2308 is designed to meet the requirements of a sophomore English class, and will generally transfer to a four-year college as an English Elective or a Humanities Elective. The degree plan to determine the status of this course in your program of study.

C. Prerequisites: The successful completion of English 1301 and Creative Writing 2307.

II. LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of this course, Creative Writing II, the student will be able to do the following:

A. Create a detailed, completed outline of a novel.

B. Evaluate strengths and weaknesses in his or her creative writing and revision processes.

C. Support and appraise the efforts of classmates in a constructive writing workshop.

D. Identify and analyze the major techniques and contemporary trends of published writers.
III. INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS

The instructional materials identified for this course are viewable through www.ctcd.edu/books

IV. COURSE REQUIREMENTS

A. Reading Assignments:
   1. Reading / Participation (each class X 2 classes per week for 15 weeks @ 15 points each): Students will have assigned reading from the two text books necessary to understanding classroom assignments and their active participation in classroom discussions. Students are required to read selected chapters from the textbooks. Students are required to read work written by their classmates. Students may be asked to do outside reading. Students should be prepared to discuss the readings in class and with small groups.

B. Writing Assignments:
   1. Completed Novel / Submission Documents (week 16 @ 100 points): This is the culmination of students’ efforts for the semester. A complete novel in a detailed outline form and its required documents ready for submission for publication. (NOTE: Students work will be judged on suitability for submission, not on actual submission.) At the discretion of the professor, students must keep a journal in which they conduct writing practice assignments assigned in class. Some of these assignments will come from the textbook. The journal may also be used for revision and other composition. The instructor will collect the journals at least once during each Unit.

   2. Class Assignments (each class X 2 classes per week for 15 weeks @ 35 points each): Students will be responsible for progressing with their novel and submission elements. Critiques of the work written by fellow classmates will be turned in during each workshop. These may be handwritten on the student’s draft material, and they should include at least one summary paragraph (approximately 100 words) of constructive criticism. More details will be given in handouts.
3. At set due dates during the semester, students will turn in completed writing assignments that may include outlines, revisions, and drafts of chapters and/or sections of the novel in progress. More details will be given in handouts.

C. Class Performance:
Students are required to attend all classes, bring their textbooks, journals, research materials, and draft materials to class, and participate actively in class discussion. Whether present or absent, students are responsible for all assignments. The student must contact the instructor about any missing assignments. Students will follow Central Texas College’s absence / withdrawal policies as stated in the CTC handbook.

D. Class Participation:
Students are required to participate constructively in class discussion. Because classmates’ own creative work will be the center of many discussions, positive attitudes are necessary to create a supportive class atmosphere. Therefore, students will follow the civil conduct policies stated in the CTC handbook. Similarly, students must be prepared to accept constructive criticism of their own work in the interest of improvement. Students must attend class regularly and punctually with their reading and writing assignments completed.

V. EXAMINATIONS

There will be one examination, the final exam, which will require a completed portfolio of the student’s work from the semester including the practice submission materials. All students must be present at the final exam.

VI. GRADING CRITERIA RUBRIC AND CONVERSION:

At any point during the semester, students should be able to easily calculate their grades based on the following point system. Each week of the semester is worth 100 points. These points will be based on completed assignments and participation for that week. This leaves a discretionary 100 points for the week of finals, based on students’ overall performance throughout the semester and their prepared novel submission.
If a holiday or emergency causes class to be skipped or cancelled, students will get full credit for that missed class provided they are up-to-date with the scheduled assignments due at the next scheduled class period.

At any time in the semester, students should be able to easily determine their course grades:
1) Add the total number of points earned.
2) Add the total number of possible points.
3) Divide the total number of points earned by the total number of points possible for all completed assignments.
4) The result is your percentage and reflects the typical letter grade assigned: i.e. A=90+, B=80-89, C=70-79, D=60-69, and F=59-.

Final grade may be based on the total number of points received during the semester:

VII. NOTES AND ADDITIONAL INSTRUCTIONS FROM THE INSTRUCTOR

A. Course Withdrawal: It is the student’s responsibility to officially withdraw from a course if circumstances prevent attendance. Any student who desires to, or must, officially withdraw from a course after the first scheduled class meeting must file a Central Texas College Application for Withdrawal (CTC Form 59). The withdrawal form must be signed by the student.

CTC Form 59 will be accepted at any time prior to Friday of the 12th week of classes during the 16-week fall and spring semesters. The deadline for sessions of other lengths is:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Session Length</th>
<th>Deadline</th>
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<tr>
<td>11-week session</td>
<td>Friday of the 8th week</td>
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<tr>
<td>8-week session</td>
<td>Friday of the 6th week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5-week session</td>
<td>Friday of the 4th week</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The equivalent date (75% of the semester) will be used for sessions of other lengths. The specific last day to withdraw is published each semester in the Schedule Bulletin.

A student who officially withdraws will be awarded the grade of “W” provided the student’s attendance and academic performance are satisfactory at the time of official withdrawal. Students must file a withdrawal application with the College before they may be considered for withdrawal.

A student may not withdraw from a class for which the instructor has previously issued the student a grade of “F” of “FN” for nonattendance.
B. **Administrative Withdrawal**: An administrative withdrawal may be initiated when the student fails to meet College attendance requirements. The instructor will assign the appropriate grade on CTC Form 59 for submission to the registrar.

C. **Incomplete Grade**: The College catalog states, “An incomplete grade may be given in those cases where the student has completed the majority of the coursework but, because of personal illness, death in the immediate family, or military orders, the student is unable to complete the requirements for a course. . .” Prior approval from the instructor is required before the grade of “I” for Incomplete is recorded. A student who merely fails to show for the final examination will receive a zero for the final and an “F” for the course.

D. **Instructor Discretion**: The instructor reserves the right of final decision in course requirements.

E. **Civility**: Individuals are expected to be cognizant of what a constructive education experience is and respectful of those participating in a learning environment. Failure to do so can result in disciplinary action up to and including expulsion.

F. **Disability Support Services** provides services to students who have appropriate documentation of a disability. Students requiring accommodations for class are responsible for contacting the Office of Disability Support Services (DSS) located on the central campus. This service is available to all students, regardless of location. Explore the website at [www.ctcd.edu/disability-support](http://www.ctcd.edu/disability-support) for further information. Reasonable accommodations will be given in accordance with the federal and state laws through the DSS office.

VIII. **COURSE OUTLINE**

A. **Unit One**: Writing Creatively

1. **Learning Outcomes**: Upon successful completion of this lesson the student will be able to do the following:
   a. Utilize free-writing methods, revise and organize outlines and draft materials, and discuss observations on reading materials.
   b. Identify basic themes and composition techniques of published works.
   c. Present and discuss original writing to the class and/or in small groups (writing workshops).

2. **Learning Activities**:

10/03/2011
a. Classroom lecture/discussion (FD30D, Chs 1-2, C5, C6, C7, C10, FFDFN, Layer I, Layer II, Layer III, Layer IV)
b. Reading assignments (FD30D, Chs 1-2, C5, C6, C7, C10, FFDFN, Layer I, Layer II, Layer III, Layer IV)
c. Writing assignments (FD30D, Chs 1-2, C5, C6, C7, C10, FFDFN, Layer I, Layer II, Layer III, Layer IV)
d. Writing workshops (FD30D, Chs 1-2, C5, C6, C7, C10, FFDFN, Layer I, Layer II, Layer III, Layer IV)

3. Unit Outline:

   a. “Preliminary Outline”
   b. “Research and Formatted Outline”
   c. “Revising Outline”
   d. “Writing First Draft”
   e. “Revising and Polishing”
   f. “Proposal”

*NOTE: Material from these chapters may be assigned at the Instructor’s discretion, choosing a balance of reading and writing assignments and allowing time for in-class writing workshops.