**COURSE SYLLABUS**

**Course Title:** Creative Writing: Fiction  
**Department:** Humanities  
**Curriculum:** Writing  
**Date submitted:** Spring 2014 (AAC: 14-25)

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**Course Code:** ENG*283  
**Course Type:** L/D

**Course Descriptors:** Make certain that the course descriptors are consistent with college and Board of Trustees policies, and the current course numbering system.

**Elective Type:** E/G/HU/LAS

**Course Code:** (eg. ACC 101)

**Course Type:**
- A: Clinical
- B: Lab
- D: Distance Learning
- I: Individual/Independent
- L: Lecture
- N: Internship
- M: Seminar
- P: Practicum
- U: Studio
- X: Combined Lecture/Lab
- Y: Combined Lecture/Studio

**Prerequisites:**
- C- or better in Composition

**Corequisites:**
- None

**Other Requirements:**
- None

**Ability Based Education (ABE) Statement:**
At Tunxis Community College students are assessed on the knowledge and skills they have learned. The faculty identified the General Education Abilities critical to students' success in their professional and personal lives. In every class, students are assessed on course abilities, sometimes program abilities, and, in most classes, at least one General Education Ability. Students will receive an evaluation of the degree to which they have demonstrated or not demonstrated that General Education Ability.

**Catalog Course Description:**
Focuses on the elements and techniques of fiction writing. Students will study examples of fiction of many kinds and discuss and practice elements of craft, such as character, conflict development, dialogue, and point of view. Students will write fiction and discuss their work in a workshop environment.

**Topical Outline:**
- **1. Introduction**  
  - A. Elements of form  
  - B. Elements of structure
C. The fiction writing market

2. Fiction Techniques
   A. Character development
   B. Specific detail
   C. Dialogue elements
   D. Flash back and flash forward
   E. Complication and transitioning
   F. Structuring action
   G. Point of view
   H. Plot development

3. Fiction Elements
   A. The narrator
      1. Types of narrators
      2. Direct and indirect methods of address
      3. Attitude and mediation
   B. Character
      1. Point of view characters
      2. Elements of motivation
      3. Round and flat characters
   C. Setting
      1. Description
      2. Detailing
      3. Developing sense of place and atmosphere
   D. Narrative sequences
      1. Narrative types
      2. Arc types
   E. Scene
      1. Action
      2. Specific detail
      3. Pacing
      4. Time sequences and place
      5. Closure
   F. Dialogue
      1. Pacing
      2. Character development
      3. Speech and characterization
      4. Dramatic vs. non-dramatic dialogue
   G. Point of View
### Creative Writing: Fiction

#### COURSE SYLLABUS

1. **1st person**
2. **2nd person**
3. **3rd person**

#### H. Arcing
1. Expositions and introductions
2. Conflict and complication (conflict development)
3. Rising action
4. Climactic drama
5. Resolutions and denouement

4. **Markets**
   - A. Literary magazines
   - B. Electronic publishing
   - C. Multimedia elements and story

### Outcomes:

Describe measurable skills or knowledge that students should be able to demonstrate as evidence that they have mastered the course content.

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

#### COURSE:

1. develop story ideas from concept to final copy
2. identify and evaluate effective elements of fiction both from a reader's and writer's perspective
3. apply elements of craft to fiction of various types
4. effectively communicate creative vision to the marketplace

#### PROGRAM: *(Numbering reflects Program Outcomes as they appear in the college catalog)*

N/A

#### GENERAL EDUCATION: *(Numbering reflects General Education Outcomes as they appear in the college catalog)*

1. **Aesthetic Dimensions** - Students will understand the diverse nature, meanings, and functions of creative endeavors through the study and practice of literature, music, the theatrical and visual arts, and related forms of expression.

   **Demonstrates:** Identifies and describes formal aspects, historical or cultural context, and aesthetic elements of the genre with clarity and appropriate vocabulary.

   **Does Not Demonstrate:** Unable to clearly identify and describe the formal aspects, historical context, and aesthetic elements of the genre.

#### Evaluation:

List how the above outcomes will be assessed.

**Assessment will be based on the following criteria:**

Students will be evaluated on a mid- and end-of-semester portfolio. The final portfolio will consist of a minimum of 20 pages of original work, exercise materials, story analyses, and critiques, as well as a writing journal.
### Instructional Resources:
List library (e.g. books, journals, on-line resources), technological (e.g. Smartboard, software), and other resources (e.g. equipment, supplies, facilities) required and desired to teach this course.

**Required:** Current Tunxis Library holdings adequately support the needs of this course.

**Desired:** None

### Textbook(s)
Suggested texts:
- Thomas, Thomas, and Hazuka. *Flash Fiction: 72 Very Short Stories*
- Thomas and Shapard. *Flash Fiction Forward*
- Charters, Ann. *The Story and Its Writer*
- Pickering, James H. *Fiction 100: An Anthology of Short Fiction*