Administrative Unit: Humanities Department

Course Prefix and Number: ENGL 408

Course Title: Advanced Creative Writing

Number of:  Credit Hours:  3  Lecture Hours:  3  Laboratory Hours:  0

Catalog Description: This course focuses on developing and fine-tuning a student's portfolio of creative writing and allows a student to put together a substantial collection of work worthy for publication in magazines or for submission (as a collection) to contests or to small presses. This course can be taken two times. As a literary studio course, ENGL 408 does not fulfill a General Education requirement.

Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): ENGL 112, and ENGL 207 or 208, and ENGL 310.

Text(s): The primary text for this course is the work of the student writer, but other works may be incorporated into discussion and debate, depending on genre. 
*The Best American Poetry* (series, latest edition)
*The Best American Short Stories* (series, latest edition)
*The Best American Essays* (series, latest edition)

As well, students will be assisted by their instructor in choosing two contemporary works by current authors in the genre in which they are pursuing.

Course Objectives:

- To analyze, discuss, and practice revising and compiling collections of either fiction or poetry or non-fiction.

Measurable Learning Outcomes:

- Demonstrate knowledge of contemporary selections published in their genre.
- Demonstrate knowledge of appropriate critique and revision of selections from student manuscripts in the specified genre.
- Recognize and demonstrate use of the terminology of writing and criticism in critiquing workshop submissions.
- Demonstrate significant revision of works in progress.

Topical Outline (major areas of coverage):

- Over a succession of revisions, the student will produce a final manuscript to be compared to the original manuscript with which each student began the course.
- Students will analyze and discuss contemporary books in individual genres.
- Students will evaluate, in class, writers, student work and works in progress.
- Student will write three book reviews (both in and out of student’s “chosen” genre).
- Students will meet regularly with instructor in individual conferences to discuss and to evaluate student work and to compare original portfolio to final portfolio.
Finally, students will review a magazine’s submission policies and look at smaller presses and contests and prepare manuscript(s) for publication in magazines or for submission.

Recommended maximum class size for this course: 15

Library Resources: Online databases are available at http://www.ccis.edu/offices/library/resources.asp. You may access them from off-campus using your eServices login and password when prompted.

Prepared by: Dr. Pam McClure
Name Signature

Date: January 07, 2005

NOTE: The intention of the master syllabus is to provide an outline of the contents of this course, as specified by the faculty of Columbia College, regardless of who teaches the course, when it is taught or where it is taught. Faculty members teaching this course for Columbia College are expected to facilitate learning pursuant to the course objectives and cover the subjects listed in the topical outline. However, instructors are also encouraged to cover additional topics of interest so long as those topics are relevant to the course’s subject. The master syllabus is, therefore, prescriptive in nature but also allows for a diversity of individual approaches to course material.

Office of Academic Affairs
12/04