



RADNOR TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT  
Course Overview



Creative Writing  
Course # 05010162

**General Information**

Credits: RHS Only  
Weighted: no  
Prerequisite: none

Length: *Semester or Cycle Day*  
Format Daily or Cycle Day Rotation  
Grade: 10, 11, 12

**Course Description**

"The two most engaging powers of an author are to make new things familiar and familiar things new," wrote Samuel Johnson. Creative writing encourages students to develop their own unique style of writing as they express themselves and their ideas, creating poetry and prose in a workshop setting. This course is suited to all academic levels. Painting pictures with words ("show, don't tell"), utilizing rich sensory descriptions, and taking creative risks are all part of this fun and challenging elective course

**Course Objectives:**

In addition to focusing on the writing and appreciation of writing, this course emphasizes the notion of creativity – how unique thought is generated. Students will collectively meditate on and engage in the various stages of the creative process: generating ideas, draft writing, editing, final revision, workshopping (dynamic feedback), and defense of the artist's ideas. As a key aspect of the process, each student will be coached on how to record observations in a journal in order to understand the relationship between raw observation and artistic expression.

**Common Assessments:**

As an elective there are no common assessments for this course. The students will be asked to generate various journal entries and work products that will help them generate polished final expressions—namely a number of poems and a short story.

**Major Units of Study:**

- i. Poetry
- ii. Fiction (Short Story)

**Materials & Texts**

This course will emphasize a heuristic approach—learning about the creative writing process by engaging in it. However, writers read, so the analysis of poems and stories is an important part of the experience. The selections will mainly be culled from current periodicals and journals, so that the students will perceive the dynamic creative culture they are engaging in. (A key notion the course will attempt to promote is 'participation'.)

**Summer Assignment**

n/a