

**West Linn–Wilsonville School District**  
**English Language Arts – Course Statement**

**Course Title: Creative Writing II**

**Length of Course:** Semester  
**Number of Credits:** .5  
**Grade Level:** 11, 12  
**Prerequisites:** English 9 and 10  
**Work Samples**  
**Offered in Course:** Opportunities for writing work samples if requested

**Date of Description/Revision:** March 2014

**Course Overview**

This course is designed for the serious and self-motivated writer who desires an environment designed for technical and creative exploration, and for focused production of original works of literature. Class activities will include: journaling; reading models of professional writing; writing in a variety of genres, both fiction and nonfiction; reading personal compositions to classmates; and, commenting on the compositions of others. Both providing and receiving constructive criticism are an integral part of this class. The second half of the semester, students will be mentored as they develop portfolios of their own writing, in any creative-writing genre of their choice.

**Essential Questions**

**Concepts providing focus for student learning**

- Why does a writer choose a particular form of writing?
- How does a writer develop an original product that will capture and maintain interest?
- How does following the writing process help a writer craft an effective piece of writing?

**Proficiency Statements**

Upon completion of course, students will be able to:

- Write daily in class, using own ideas or prompts given by the instructor.
- Use sensory details and imagery to create vivid descriptions.
- Use diction, tone, and point of view appropriate to purpose and audience.
- Use various techniques of characterization, such as revealing character through his/her observation of setting/circumstances.
- Explore elements of style in his/her own writing and work to polish that style and strengthen his/her voice.
- Improve sentences through identifying and eliminating weaknesses such as wordiness, trite phrasing, and ambiguity.
- Critique other student writers' works, giving positive feedback and specific ideas for improvement.
- Read own compositions to a group and employ constructive criticism in rewriting.
- Revise own compositions, making writing more clear and interesting.

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<b>General Course Topics/Units &amp; Timeframes</b>	
A. The Short Story B. Dramatic Literature C. Narrative Nonfiction D. Poetry E. Portfolio Writing, Workshopping, and Revising	
<b>Resources</b>	