

# Creative Writing Courses

## Contacts



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## Description

Are you interested in writing poetry, short stories, or personal narratives? The Creative Writing program at City College offers exciting classes to explore your voice as a writer. City College offers a 15-unit Certificate of Performance in Creative Writing. Our dynamic faculty are poets, fiction writers and essayists who create courses designed to help you to explore different genres of writing.

### Which courses can I take?

(Please note that you do not need to take these courses in sequential order)

- *English 36 Basic Creative Writing Workshop*  
If you have not taken English 101 yet, you can still take English 36. This class may run concurrently with one of the below sections and is not a transfer level English class.
- *English 245 A/B Creative Nonfiction*  
This course explores personal essay writing.
- *English 247 A/B Poetry*  
In this class you will write different kinds of poems which may include free verse, spoken word, and formal verse.

- *English 249 Introduction to Creative Writing*  
This introductory class explores the writing of poetry, fiction and creative non-fiction. You can take this class twice as 249 A and 249 B. You do not need to take this class before taking 245, 252, or 247. In spring semesters, this course edits and produces City Works literary journal.
- *English 252 A/B Fiction*  
In this class you will deepen your exploration of writing fiction, including flash fiction, micro fiction, short stories, and novels.

## Courses

**(FT)** = A field trip may be required for this course.

**AA/AS** = Associate Degree Applicable

**CSU** = California State University Applicable

**UC** = University of California Applicable

**Milestone** formerly referred to as Skill Level

### **ENGL 36 Basic Creative Writing Workshop**

*1- 3 hours lecture, 1–3 units*

*Letter Grade or Pass/No Pass Option*

This course is a beginning creative writing workshop. Topics include the creative process and the fundamentals of creative writing. Emphasis is placed on poetry, fiction, and/or creative nonfiction. This course is intended for students who are interested in the fundamentals of creative writing. (FT) Not applicable to the Associate Degree.

### **English 245A Writing Creative Non-Fiction**

*3 hours lecture, 3 units*

*Grade Only*

*Prerequisite: English 101 or English 105, each with a grade of “C” or better, or equivalent.*

*Limitation on Enrollment: This course is not open to students with previous credit for English 245.*

This is an intensive course in writing creative nonfiction. Emphasis is placed on the principles and methods of creative nonfiction and the critical analysis of student and master works addressing personal, social, political, and/or cultural issues. Students submit original creative nonfiction for class discussion and are introduced to the workshop format to further their work. This course is intended for students majoring in English and those preparing for writing-related careers in areas, such as publishing, journalism, communications, and education. (FT) AA/AS; CSU; UC.

### **English 245B Advanced Creative Non-Fiction**

*3 hours lecture, 3 units*

*Grade Only*

*Prerequisite: English 245A with a grade of “C” or better, or equivalent.*

This course is an intensive course advanced creative nonfiction. Emphasis is placed on advanced

techniques in character, point of view, narrative, plot, language, style, and structure. The creative process includes meetings with the professor to set goals. Students use fictional techniques of character development, plotting, setting, language, verb tense, and theme to compose nonfiction at an advanced level. This course is intended for students majoring in English and those preparing for writing-related careers in areas, such as publishing, journalism, communications, and education, and those desiring to develop a writing portfolio. (FT) AA/AS; CSU; UC.

**English 247A Writing Seminar - Poetry**

*3 hours lecture, 3 units*

*Letter Grade or Pass/No Pass Option*

*Prerequisite: English 101 or English 105, each with a grade of "C" or better, or equivalent.*

*Limitation on Enrollment: This course is not open to students with previous credit for English 247.*

This course is an introduction to writing poems. Emphasis is placed on the basic elements, techniques and invention strategies for writing poems, with some instruction in basic forms and evaluative techniques. This course is intended for students majoring in English and all students interested in writing poems. (FT) AA/AS; CSU; UC.

**English 247B Advanced Writing Seminar - Poetry**

*3 hours lecture, 3 units*

*Letter Grade or Pass/No Pass Option*

*Prerequisite: English 247A with a grade of "C" or better, or equivalent.*

This course provides advanced instruction in writing poems. Emphasis is placed on sophisticated forms, techniques, and evaluation, as well as on preparing poems for submission and publication. This course is intended for students majoring in English and all students interested in writing poems. (FT) AA/AS; CSU; UC.

**English 249A Introduction to Creative Writing I**

*3 hours lecture, 3 units*

*Letter Grade or Pass/No Pass Option*

*Prerequisite: English 101 or English 105, each with a grade of "C" or better, or equivalent.*

*Limitation on Enrollment: This course is not open to students with previous credit for English 249.*

This course is an introduction to creative writing with a focus on fiction and poetry. Students use the basic elements of poetry and fiction writing to analyze the works of professional writers, to create original pieces, and to critique the work of their peers as well as their own. This course is intended for students majoring in English and all students interested in fiction and fiction writing. (FT) AA/AS; CSU; UC.

**English 249B Introduction to Creative Writing II**

*3 hours lecture, 3 units*

*Letter Grade or Pass/No Pass Option*

*Prerequisite: English 249A with a grade of "C" or better, or equivalent.*

This course is an exploration and application of creative writing with a focus on fiction and poetry. Students use complex elements of poetry and fiction writing to analyze the works of

professional writers, to create original pieces, and to critique the work of their peers as well as their own. This course is intended for students majoring in English and all students interested in fiction and fiction writing. (FT) AA/AS; CSU; UC.

**English 252A Fundamentals of Fiction Writing**

*3 hours lecture, 3 units*

*Letter Grade or Pass/No Pass Option*

*Prerequisite: English 101 or English 105, each with a grade of "C" or better, or equivalent.*

*Limitation on Enrollment: This course is not open to students with previous credit for English 253.*

This is an intensive course in fiction writing techniques at the beginning level. Students read and evaluate master works of fiction based on the basic elements of fiction writing introduced in class. Students write original fiction for submission to the class for discussion and integrate criticism offered by the instructor and peers through the editing process. This course is intended for students interested in a better understanding of literature and/or use of language as well as students interested in a writing-related career, such as publishing, journalism, communications, or education. (FT) AA/AS; CSU; UC.

**English 252B Intermediate Fiction Writing**

*3 hours lecture, 3 units*

*Letter Grade or Pass/No Pass Option*

*Prerequisite: English 252A with a grade of "C" or better, or equivalent. Limitation on Enrollment: This course is not open to students with previous credit for English 254.*

This is an intensive course in fiction writing techniques at the intermediate level. Students read and evaluate master works of fiction that address personal, social, political and/cultural issues and integrate such elements into their original pieces of fiction. Students are expected to articulate, accept, and incorporate criticism through an increasingly sophisticated editorial process. This course is intended for students interested in improving their creative writing skills and/or developing a portfolio prior to transferring to a four-year institution. (FT) AA/AS; CSU; UC.