

Technical Writing/Audition Practices

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The Literary Media and Communications Department's (LMC) goal is singular, to train its student in the different strands of communication (written, verbal and new media), considering how this translates to the marketplace. This department necessitates interdisciplinarity, including, but not limited to LMC, Theater, Museum Studies, Visual Arts, and TDP (recording studio). Our aim is to dismantle the sometimes self-indulgent, and strictly cathartic workshop model of writing and leave in its place a department that imparts to its students the notion that they are writing to work, rather than just writing to write.

Literary devices, theory and rhetoric will be challenged as students write and create their own aesthetic. Students will engage with each other as well as instructor in college prep- "writing workshops," strengthening communication styles. Students will simulate the life of a full time writer with timed writing requirements, monthly journal submissions and the basics of publishing, as these are the audition practices of a writer. Students will complete a small chapbook, contributing to department fundraising.

Standards Met

- Discussion
- Questioning, Listening, and Contributing
- Vocabulary Development
- Text
- Expository, Document and Procedural Text, Argument and Persuasive Text
- Connections
- Genre, Theme
- Fiction, Literary Nonfiction
- Poetry
- Style and Literature
- Imaginative/Narrative Writing
- Revision

Titles

Selected Poems – J. Cortez, & more

Autobiography of A Family Photo, J. Woodson

Wildseed, O. Butler

Class Project (LMC Contribution)

35th ☞ R *Chapbooks*

35th ☞ R *Open Mic Feature*

Class Format

Weekly Homework- *Word Bank*. If the word is river, students will research rivers and come up with 10 new words associated with it. And no more than two repeat types. For example 1. Mississippi, 2. Ganges, 3. Nile—You can only do two of those.

Ritual Warm Up- *Freewrites*. To build writing as a habit, students write whatever they want for 5-10 minutes.

Monthly Workshops.

Monthly Film and Conferences.

Monthly pop quizzes in grammar/ proofreading/ etc.

Advisory poem recitations.

Submit- Students are to submit to one literary journal a month.

35th & R Open Mic Feature- Students will prepare 20 minute set, as featured artist at LMC's open mic. Will be graded on preparation, performance, as well as promotion.

Grading Scale

All written assignments must be turned in typed, 12pt Times New Roman, and double spaced. Name, date and course/assignment in upper right hand corner (preferably the header). Title, then piece. Example disbursed. Poems are asked to be turned in handwritten, as well as typed.

Class Participation& Workshops- 20%

Open Mic Feature- 20%

Pop Quizzes &Recitations- 20%

Homework- 20%

Conferences & Chapbooks 20%

Syllabus

Challenge The Aesthetic: students will be introduced or reacquainted with 'classic' poetry forms such as the sonnet, elegy, haiku. As well as literary techniques- such as metaphor, refrain, etc. After understanding these tools, and mastering them, youth will be challenged to break the rules and create their own.

Persona Poems: Students will write poems from the standpoint of another character.

Same Stuff, Different Day: Students will be given excerpts of pieces that discuss the same topic, and challenged to find originality within the work. There are many topics that poets, writers, can 'abuse,' such as oppression, racism, etc. Students will learn finesses when approaching big subjects.

Performance vs Paper... Hayden vs Black Arts Movement

Blue Challenge- Youth are asked to compile list of similes, descriptions. Without comparing 'blue' to particular taboo words, phrases such as water or sorrow. This can be done with every color.

Write What I Say- Using the Page. Typography.

Read- "How Do You Write A Poem"- N. Giovanni.

Rite- "This is How You Write a Poem."

Three Poems- Students will read and discuss three poems that serve the same purpose.

There's Something 'About' Mary. Students will partake in exercises that pieces should never be 'about' something as opposed to the actual something.