Creative Writing 1 is aimed at encouraging students to develop their creative and critical potentials. This course consists of readings, discussions, writing assignments, and writing workshops.

**Class Text:** Stephen Minot’s *Three Genres: The Writing of Poetry, Fiction, and Drama.* (Copies of this text will be on reserve at the Dana Porter library.) In addition to the Stephen Minot writing text, you will be responsible for providing copies of your poem or short story to the workshop group. Workshop material will be distributed **one week prior** to the workshop date. Be sure to set aside $30.00 for photocopying costs incurred during the term. I encourage you to make frequent trips to the current periodical section in the library and to attend the public readings at St. Jerome’s in order to familiarize yourself with the contemporary literary scene.

**Attendance:** Much of this course is conducted as a workshop in which the writing of each class member is discussed on a regular basis. Regular attendance is **mandatory** as class participation, willingness to thoughtfully revise your work, and not raw talent alone, will form the basis for much of the final grade. Any absence without good cause will affect your final grade.

**Late Assignments:** No late assignments will be accepted without a medical certificate or proper documentation. If you do have to hand in a late assignment be sure to staple the proper documentation to the assignment. Late assignments will be returned at the end of the course.

**Grades/Assignments:**
- Attendance, In-class participation, Reading assignments, Constructive workshop participation, ungraded writing assignments..............................................20%

**Workshop Drafts:** Your workshop draft must be typed and carefully edited for spelling, grammar, etc. It must be thoughtfully written in the days immediately preceding the due date (please do not hand in undeveloped “journal poems,” or work written for other courses).

**POETRY**

**Poem #1** - due January 11 (27 copies--1 copy per class member, 2 for instructor)
- **at least 14 lines and at least 140 words in length**.........................................................00

Please note that you will be required to write another poem if you do not fulfill the length requirements. On Instructor’s copy only include one paragraph that briefly describes what your poem is about, use of theme and symbols, use of figurative language, and your use of image clusters.

**Poem #2** - due January 25 (10 copies--1 copy per group member, 1 for instructor)
- **at least 14 lines and at least 120 words in length**.........................................................00

Please note that you will be required to write another poem if you do not fulfill the length requirements.
Revised Poem - due February 8 (1 copy)
Your revised poem (#1 or #2) will be thoroughly edited and revised. In addition to the revision you must include a 750 word explanation of your revision process. Please refer to the elements of poetry covered in class and the text.................................30

FICTION
Flash Fiction - due February 15 (to be submitted on UW ACE)
- approx. 1000 - 1250 words in length...............................................................00

Flash Fiction #2 – due March 8 (10 copies: one per group member, 1 for instructor)
- approx. 1000-1250 words in length.................................................................00

Revised Flash Fiction - due March 22 .................................................................30
Your revised flash fiction (#1 or #2) must be thoroughly revised and edited. In addition to the revised fiction, you must include a 750 word explanation of the revision process. Please refer to the elements of narration covered in class and the text.

DRAMA/PERFORMANCE
Collaborative Performance — March 29..........................................................20

Class Schedule:

January 04:       Introduction // Reading Assignment: Part One, Poetry (1 - 134)
January 11:       Poem #1 due— 27 copies // Film: United States of Poetry
January 18:       Poetry Workshop (class)
January 25:       Poetry Workshop (class) // Poem #2 due - 10 copies
February 01:      Poetry Workshop (groups) // Reading: Part 2, Fiction (139-274)
February 08:      Fiction Lecture // Collaborative Groups // Revised Poem due
February 15:      Fiction #1 Due (to be submitted on UW ACE) //Collaborative Group Work
February 22:      Reading Week
March 01:         Fiction Workshop (class)
March 08:         Fiction Workshop (class) // Flash Fiction #2 due (10 copies)
March 15: Fiction Workshop (groups)

March 22: Fiction revision due, Group Work

March 29: Collaborative Performances

Collaborative Performance/Text: 20%
February 8, March 29

Part I

For this assignment you will form groups: three or four people per group. On March 29, you will hand in a printed script and do a collaborative performance of approx. 10 - 15 minutes in length. The subject matter and form of the performance is wide open, anything from a conventional one-act play to sound poetry (and anything in-between) is acceptable. Be sure to consider the distinction between language on the page and language performed. You will be graded on your use of language, your collaborative process, the originality, complexity, and rendering of the script, and the form and cohesiveness of the (dramatic) structure. This assignment is about exploring language, but it can also be about pushing the parameters of genre. I encourage you to be innovative.

Please note that if you incorporate other texts, they must be properly cited in the script. Outside texts should comprise less than 20% of your text.

Part II

Following each performance there will be a brief discussion–its purpose is to give the performance group audience feedback. This discussion will begin with the group briefly explaining the creative process/intention and the final result. The group will then facilitate a discussion by asking questions regarding their performance; for instance, questions might be related to how effective the translation of the text into performance was, pacing, sound, props, meaning, etc. One way to consider this aspect of the performance class is to understand it in terms of the workshop space.

Part III

You will evaluate each person’s involvement in the collaborative process and assign a grade. This will be handed in with the script. I will consider these comments/grades when determining the individual collaborative performance grades.
The University of Waterloo Examination Regulations (www.registrar.uwaterloo.ca/exams/ExamRegs.pdf) state that:

- A medical certificate presented in support of an official petition for relief from normal academic requirements must provide all of the information requested on the “University of Waterloo Verification of Illness” form or it will not be accepted. This form can be obtained from Health Services or at www.healthservices.uwaterloo.ca/Health_Services/verification.html.

- If a student has a test/examination deferred due to acceptable medical evidence, he/she normally will write the test/examination at a mutually convenient time, to be determined by the course instructor.

- The University acknowledges that, due to the pluralistic nature of the University community, some students may on religious grounds require alternative times to write tests and examinations.

- Elective arrangements (such as travel plans) are not considered acceptable grounds for granting an alternative examination time.

**OTHER INFORMATION**

**Academic Integrity:** In order to maintain a culture of academic integrity, members of the University of Waterloo and its Federated University and Affiliated Colleges are expected to promote honesty, trust, fairness, respect and responsibility.

**Discipline:** All students registered in courses at St. Jerome’s University are expected to know what constitutes academic integrity, to avoid committing academic offences, and to take responsibility for their actions. A student who is unsure whether an action constitutes an offence, or who needs help in learning how to avoid offences (e.g., plagiarism, cheating) or about “rules” for group work/collaboration should seek guidance from the course professor, academic advisor, or the Associate Dean. When misconduct has been found to have occurred, disciplinary penalties will be imposed under St. Jerome’s University Academic Discipline Policy and UW Policy 71 – Student Discipline. For information on categories of offenses and types of penalties, students should refer to Policy 71 - Student Discipline, www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy71.htm.

**Grievance:** A student who believes that a decision affecting some aspect of his/her university life has been unfair or unreasonable may have grounds for initiating a grievance. In such a case, contact the St. Jerome’s University Grievance Officer. Read St. Jerome’s University Handbook, Section4, item 8, www.sju.ca/faculty/SJU_handbook/grievance_policy.html.

**Appeals:** A student may appeal the finding and/or penalty in a decision made under St. Jerome’s University Academic Discipline Policy or Grievance Policy if a ground for an appeal can be established. In such a case, contact the St. Jerome’s University Appeals Officer. Read St. Jerome’s University Handbook, Section 6.4, www.sju.ca/faculty/SJU_handbook/examinations_grades_standings_and_appeals.html.

**Academic Integrity website (Arts):** http://arts.uwaterloo.ca/arts/ugrad/academic_responsibility.html

**Academic Integrity Office (UW):** http://uwaterloo.ca/academicintegrity/

**Note for students with disabilities:** The Office for Persons with Disabilities (OPD), located in Needles Hall, Room 1132, collaborates with all academic departments to arrange appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities without compromising the academic integrity of the curriculum. If you require academic accommodations to lessen the impact of your disability, please register with the OPD at the beginning of each academic term.