

Woodside Learning Center

Creative Writing: Fables, Fantasy, Fairytales, and Fiction (Grades 4-10) Online & Face-to-Face

8 Weeks: October 25 – December 19, 2012 (last f2f class Dec 13)

Instructor: Cyndy McKinley

This creative writing course is aimed at both reluctant and inspired writers. We will study traditional and modern fables, fantasies, fairytales, and other fun fiction. Then we will create some of our own as we learn the six traits of writing (ideas, organization, voice, sentence fluency, word choice, & conventions). Who knows what sort of creations we'll come up with?

Students have the option of enrolling in a fully online course or a face-to-face class.

The **face-to-face** class meets one hour per week at our Weddington location. In addition to weekly class attendance, students have access to online discussions and activities on the course website. Students will email assignments to the instructor each week. She will review the assignments, provide comments, and return them to the student. On the occasion that a student is unable to attend a weekly class session due to other obligations, he or she will have the ability to review the missed material online.

Students enrolled as **fully online** learners will have access to the same online discussions and activities as the face-to-face students. In addition, our website presents the activities and content discussed in the live classroom. Students will interact with other students and the teacher via weekly discussion forums and activities. Each week the student will post a writing assignment that the teacher will review (via email).

ONLINE COURSE SCHEDULE: (Fully online students should be reading at or above 6th grade level)

Students have one week to complete the weekly lesson activities. Activities are grouped by proficiency level. This class runs "asynchronously" (participants do not need to be online at the same time). **Tuition: \$85**

FACE-TO-FACE COURSE SCHEDULE: Thursday Afternoons: 12:30-1:30 Tuition: \$110

Registration: Please visit our website to download a registration form. www.woodsidelc.com

Although the topics for each week remain the same, the classes and assignments vary according to grade level. (10th graders should expect to work hard – but we'll still have fun!)

Week	Topic	Lesson
#1	Introduction (ideas, word choice)	What does it take to be a writer? Do you need good penmanship or a great vocabulary? Today, we'll discuss the traits of writing. Various foods, textures, sights, and smells will help us include sense descriptions in our stories.
#2	Fables (ideas, organization)	What are the parts of a fable? What is a moral? Who are the characters in a fable? We will read various fables and then write some of our own.
#3	Fantasy (ideas, organization)	Artist/author Chris Van Allsburg has created many fantasylands. We will explore some of his illustrations and then create our own stories. (*Face-to-face classes will not meet this week. All work to be completed online.)
#4	Fairytales (voice, fluency)	Let's discuss our favorite fairytales. Which characters do you like the most? What if we told the story from another point of view? We'll write our own fairytales and explore point of view.
#5	Fantasy (organization, word choice)	Let's create an alien creature! Your imagination is the limit on this one. But don't forget the details or no one else will be able to follow your instructions. (*Face-to-face classes will not meet this week. All work to be completed online.)
#6	Fables/Poetry (word choice, fluency)	The use of precise language is important in writing, and especially in poetry. Today, we'll teach moral lessons through poetry. Bring plenty of energy to class.
#7	Fairytales (voice, organization)	Using travel brochures, we'll imagine the perfect vacation. Then we'll send a fairytale character to that destination. Did the trip end up as advertised in the brochure? Read the travel diary to find out.
#8	Coffeehouse/Editing (ideas & conventions)	Let's share! Today, students will share some of their favorite works (written either by themselves or their favorite author). Refreshments will be served and artistry applauded. Online students will edit work.

Schedule subject to change

Contact Information:

For more information or a registration form please visit our class website or contact Cyndy McKinley

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