



# Welcome to Creative Writing

**Teacher:** Ms. Felicia Kucharski

**Hours available:** Everyday 3:20-4:00. It is best to let me know you would like to meet so I am sure to be available.

**School Front Office Phone:** (801)731-9859

**Email:** [fkucharski@questacademycharter.org](mailto:fkucharski@questacademycharter.org)

**Supplies:** Writing Instruments (pencil preferred, NO green or red ink)  
3-ring binder (you can share with other classes, particularly ELA, but I recommend a dedicated folder)

Notebook paper (store in 3-ring binder)

Thumb drive

Index cards (for use later but they are on sale now)

Ream of printer paper

Please donate what you can: hand sanitizer, Lysol spray or Lysol wipes

Student Planner to track assignments (supplied by the school)

## **Behavior Expectations:**

There are three school wide rules which all students must follow. These rules must be taught in the classroom, rehearsed, and reinforced throughout the year.

### **1. Respectful Movement-**

a. Students are expected to use non-disruptive, respectful behavior in the hallway before school, after school, and during class transitions. Running, pushing, slamming lockers and other disruptive behavior may result in a deduction in citizenship points or a detention referral.

**2. Self Start** – Students will start on regular daily assignments or tasks without being prompted.

**3. Follow Directions** – Students must follow directions the first time given.

\* Please be familiar with the dress code policy as I will be enforcing it.

## **Goals:**

1. The students will participate in and understand the writing process. The process includes the following steps, although not always in this order: pre-writing, drafting, revision, editing and publishing. There are a variety of ways to approach these steps and we will look at several so each student will be able to determine which works best for them.
2. The students will participate in a wide variety of writing genres. This will include a multi-genre paper (a portfolio of sorts) for 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grades.
3. The students will become familiar with and understand terms important to writing.
4. The students will formulate their own beliefs about the value of writing and reading as a way to express, understand and explore.

### **Assignments:**

- Completing the writing process – For each writing assignment, students must produce proof of each draft. For digital assignments, the steps must be passed off with me on the due date.
- Published works – This is the final draft students turn in for grading.
- Daily journaling – Students will be expected to write daily in their writing journal. This will be checked for participation.
- Quizzes – Students will have quizzes covering literary terms, items discussed, reading assignments and more.
- Discussion – Students will participate in class discussions.
- Other assignments
- *While this is a creative writing course, it is not a forum to put down anyone or anything due to their race, gender, ethnicity, physical features, mental abilities, etc. While some original writings may require violence, please approach this in a school-appropriate way. Avoid excessive violence, detailed description of weapons, graphic violence, swearing or derogatory language. I have a **zero** tolerance for these things. Your assignment will not be graded and you will be referred to the administration for further discussion.*

### **Absent Students:**

Students are responsible to ask for their own missing work. Students have as many days as they missed to get the work completed and turned in to me. For example, if they were absent two days, they have two days (after returning) to complete the missed assignments. *I will not call for them.* Getting and completing missed work is the STUDENT'S responsibility. If there are extenuating circumstances, please contact me to make arrangements for make-up work.

### **Grading of Student Work:**

The student's scores and grades may be accessed at any time online through the Student Information System (SIS). SIS can be accessed through the link on the Quest webpage ([www.questacademycharter.org](http://www.questacademycharter.org)) under the "Get Involved" tab. I will update grades in SIS on a regular basis~ at least once weekly on Friday. If there are points possible but your student's score is blank either your student has been excused from the assignment or it means I have entered the task but not yet entered their score. If your student has a Zero (0), then the assignment is missing. If you have any questions about your student's grades, feel free to contact me.

### **Late Work:**

Students will have one week, seven calendar days, after the due date to get an assignment turned in to the teacher or it will not be accepted. The student will be docked 5% of the assignment's point value **for every day that it is late** until day seven when it can no longer be turned in for credit.

**Extra Credit:**

I occasionally offer extra credit. When I do, I expect students who are struggling to take advantage of the opportunity!

**Tardy Policy:**

A student is considered tardy if they are not sitting, *not in the process of sitting*, in their assigned seat when the tardy bell rings. Extensive tardiness will result in further action.

**Rules, Consequences, and Rewards:**

My class will follow the same rules that are required throughout the entire school. (See page 15 in the Parent handbook for specific rules and consequences.)

*Please cut along this line, sign and return the bottom portion:*

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**Communication:**

Grades will be discussed in your PTC or anytime you would like to set up a meeting to discuss with me any concerns. You will find my email on the first page of this syllabus or on the school website. You can also contact me by phone.

I have read this document and understand what is expected of me in Creative Writing.

I have read this document and understand what is expected of my student in Creative Writing.

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Student Signature

Parent Signature

Please provide your current email and preferred phone number below so that I may communicate with you readily:

Email

\_\_\_\_\_ @ \_\_\_\_\_

Phone

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