



Teacher Information

Email: hmason@paradiseschools.org

Room Number: B124

Tutoring Hours: Monday, 3-3:30

Website: <https://helenmasonphhs.weebly.com/>

Course Description

Creative Writing is a course designed to afford students the opportunity to develop their creative writing skills across a range of genres in a collaborative writer's workshop format. Students will examine and create narrative fiction and nonfiction, in addition to working with other writing genres including short stories, children's stories, poetry and lyrics, plays and screenplays, autobiographies and life writing, and more. Areas of focus will include: generating ideas, planning, drafting, sharing and providing feedback, revising written work, and overcoming writer's block. Course content will align to ELA standards.

Course Expectations

1. Write informative research essays that incorporate internal citations, direct quotes, utilize primary and secondary sources, and include a works cited page.
2. Analyze and evaluate elements and themes of fiction and nonfiction literature.
3. Interpret and formulate judgments about a piece of literature and support those judgments with convincing, textual evidence.
4. Effectively engage in group discussions.
5. Advance language and vocabulary skills critical to college and career readiness.

Pacing Guide

Q1: Nonfiction

Q2: Fiction

Q3: Other Writing Forms

Q4: Visual media

The order of content may be revised according to changes in the academic schedule, the students' interests, and the unique needs of the students.

School-wide Expectations

Google Classroom

All classrooms utilize Google Classroom to share documents, collect assignments and communicate with students. Students are responsible for posted due dates and are expected to check Google Classroom daily.

Academic honesty

Plagiarism includes the act of intentionally using information or property of another or knowingly sharing academic information to gain an unfair advantage. To steal and pass off the ideas or words of another as one's own. Discipline for academic dishonesty may result in a loss of credit for the assignment and up to a 5-day suspension.





Passes & Tardies

You must be in your assigned seat starting bellwork at the bell. If you are not in the door by the time the last bell rings, you will be marked tardy.

Passes will not be given to students in the 5 minutes in the beginning nor the 5 minutes at the end of the class period except in extreme circumstances. Passes to the restroom/water fountain will be given to one student at a time. Please limit the amount of time you are out of class by going to the restroom/water fountain during the passing period. You must have your ID to receive a pass out of class unless there is an emergency situation.



Preparedness

Please bring all necessary supplies and assignments to class each day. When you enter the classroom, sit in your assigned seat and begin bellwork immediately.



Electronic Devices

All students have been provided a Chromebook. Any technology use will be limited to the Chromebook. All personal cell phones, headphones, etc. should be in your bag and out of sight. Please be sure to silence all devices before putting them away. Students will be expected to handle their assigned Chromebook in accordance with school norms and procedures.



Attendance

Students are strongly encouraged to attend class regularly. If a student has an excused absence it is the student's responsibility to complete any assignment, quiz or exam that was missed. Per Arizona Revised Statute 15-802, 15-803, a student who is absent from any given class 10% or more either excused or unexcused, per year may not receive academic credit for that class.

School-wide Academic Policies

School-wide Late Work Policy

Late work is defined as any work completed and turned in after a designated due date. Late work will be accepted up to **TWO DAYS AFTER THE DESIGNATED DUE DATE FOR THE WORK**. Extended time may be given due to extenuating circumstances such as major family illness, car accidents, etc. However, **NO LATE WORK** will be accepted one week prior to the end of the quarter.

Work turned in on time	Full earned credit
Work turned in one day late	75% of earned credit
Work turned in two days late	50% of earned credit
Work turned in three or more days late	0% of earned credit

School-wide Make Up Work Policy

Make up work is defined as any assignments or tests students need to complete due to an excused absence. Students will be allowed the same amount of days equal to the number of excused absence days to make up assignments for full credit.

Suggested Supplies

Students are expected to show up prepared and ready to learn every day of class. This includes bringing all materials! In addition to the PHHS universal supply list that includes:

- Pen/Pencil
- Paper
- Highlighter
- Colored pencils
- Notecards

You will need:

- An “ideas” journal (composition book or similar)
- Sticky notes
- Colored pens, markers, or pencils
- Somewhere to store papers distributed in class (three-ringed binder with tab dividers or two-pocket folder)
- Spiral notebook or loose left paper for note taking

Arizona law requires that public schools provide supplies required for academic success. The majority of the supplies your child will use in the classroom will be provided by the school. The above is a wish list of optional items desired for each student in each grade level. Any student unable to bring any of the listed items will be provided with supplies.

Please return promptly.

Student/Parent Acknowledgement

Student Name (print) _____

Class Period _____

I have read this course syllabus and understand class policies and procedures and will make a commitment in my responsibilities to support them.

Signed _____ (student)

Signed _____ (parent/guardian)

Information provided by the Parent/Guardian: (Required)

Parent/Guardian Names: (PLEASE PRINT) _____

Email _____

Daytime phone(s) _____

Does your PHHS student have any special needs that I should know about?

Is there any other information you feel I should be aware of?

Thank you!
I look forward to getting to know you this year.
If you have any questions, feel free to email me.