

Multi-Cultural Literature- Creative Writing

Unit

essential understandings:

Creative writing is the focus of our final unit. Students will be exploring the different genres of creative writing, the way creative writing is produced, and the impact of creative writing on society and individuals. Multicultural authors of poetry, prose, and creative nonfiction will be read and analyzed. The best way to learn how to write is to read, so this unit will focus equally on reading and writing creative works.

"A word after a word after a word is power."

--Margaret Atwood



Art by Shantell Martin

overview

Creative writing is used to express emotions, tell important stories, and to make sense of the world. Creative writers are artists who put hard work into their craft. Their ability to make people think and feel gives them power and strength in society. Students will study the

techniques and devices used by a variety of authors to create powerful messages through writing. Guest teacher and poet Brennan DiFresco will guide students through writing workshops to create their own creative writing portfolio.

By reading the creative works of multiple authors, and by producing their own creative writing, students will enhance their understanding of the importance of literature and stories in daily life. Higher order thinking skills such as analysis, synthesis, and evaluation will be practiced.

guiding questions:

What makes a piece of creative writing “good”? What qualities or techniques can authors use to inspire and engage readers? How can we use creative writing to express ourselves in a way that is artful and cathartic?

lessons

- Creative Writing Genres
- Techniques for Creative Writing
- Poetry
- Prose
- Creative Nonfiction
- Literary Elements
- Literary Devices
- Reading Strategies

group work

- Students will be actively participating in group work, primarily in pairs, by evaluating each other’s creative writing assignments. They will give productive feedback to each other on how to best convey the message they are trying to get across. **Due 5/28-5/29, 6/4-6/5**

individual work

- Daily notes on lessons-Daily notes are a summary of the most important information from each lesson, individual writing assignments (Do Now, Answering the AIM, creative short writing, reading quizzes, etc), 5 vocabulary words with definitions from the day’s

lesson/reading/activities, and short group activities these are **Due at the end of each lesson**

- Creative writing with Brennan-Students will be participating in three (3) separate one (1) hour long writer's workshops with Brennan from Poetry Out Loud. These smaller works will be put together into a writer's portfolio at the end of the unit. **Portfolio Due 6/11-6/12**

assessments Due 6/14-6/15

- A Socratic Dialogue on creative writing. Students will develop two questions to bring to class about any of the readings or writing activities from this unit to discuss in a collaborative dialogue.

readings

Notes on a Native Son by James Baldwin

Home by Warsan Shire

Good Bones by Maggie Smith

Collective Nouns for Humans In The Wild by Kathy Fish

The Revenant by Billy Collins

Borderbus by Juan Felipe Herrera

Dear Discouraged by Tonya Ingram

My Honest Poem by Rudy Francisco

Still I Rise by Maya Angelou

Annabel Lee by Edgar Allen Poe

Oh Captain, My Captain by Walt Whitman

A Sestina For A Black Girl Who Does Not Know How To Braid Hair by Raych Jackson

videos

Dead Poet's Society

<https://youtu.be/o30cLzwVbE4>

https://youtu.be/aOevG_I3DC8

<https://youtu.be/HwffEcUSsCU>

https://youtu.be/Tq-W_GLxsUs

<https://youtu.be/7V7TXJdl8-Y>

<https://youtu.be/nJwiOTeKDOQ>

<https://youtu.be/8s1spvkfboe>

<https://youtu.be/Yw-FjS6BzaQ>

<https://youtu.be/VtTkXBSML48>

<https://youtu.be/zaq5bNK4q0c>

<https://youtu.be/mFS-er6oZ30>

<https://youtu.be/xx5wXwfjYIA>

https://youtu.be/16Tb_bZZDv0

<https://youtu.be/0QsCrFANMzc>

<https://youtu.be/0uFUrbJJwDs>

links

<http://gjs.appstate.edu/social-justice-and-human-rights/what-social-justice>

<http://gender.stanford.edu/news/2013/why-literature-matters-social-justice>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=if6RmoT5roI>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hoYJCuOiho0>