



**Abydos/NJWPT  
Mesquite Cohort  
Course Syllabus for Summer 2014**

According to State of Texas HB 2504, this course syllabus must be submitted for review prior to the course's scheduled start date. Therefore, the instructor has the right to modify this syllabus and course calendar at any time between submission for publication and the first day of class. Furthermore, the instructor has the right to modify the syllabus at any time during the course itself provided that (1) such changes do not increase expectations or requirements beyond a reasonable equivalent and (2) students are given ample notification.

**Instructor:** Russ Weeks  
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**COURSE INFORMATION**

**Dates And Times:**

Face-to-Face Classes meet on the following dates from 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. in Professional Development Center Mesquite ISD

July 7-24

**Materials Needed for the Course:** Writer's Notebook, self-selected novel for reading projects (other Textbooks provided)

**Course Description:** This course is a three week writing workshop. Teachers of writing will become writers and lovers of reading and writing and will share this passion with their students in their classrooms.

**Student Learning Outcomes:**

- Students will actively participate in writing, sharing, and revising
- Students will come away with a passion for writing and will be confident, authentic writers and teachers of writing.

## COURSE REQUIREMENTS

### **Instructional / Methods / Activities Assessments**

1. **Class Attendance.** Students must attend all day for all 12 days of instruction.
2. **Participate Appropriately.** Students will actively participate in writing, sharing, and revising
3. **Adhere to the Code of Conduct.** "All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment." In a program such as this, you are always working and interacting with others during classes. In that regard, you are expected at all times to behave in the same manner that you would expect your students to behave in your classroom. Please refrain from side conversations as they distract others and interrupt your learning. All cell phones and text devices should be silenced during class time. If you must make/receive a call or text during class, please step out of the classroom.
4. Outside reading assignments will be given daily
5. Students will submit two polished, well-developed pieces of writing for publication (one reflexive and one extensive)
6. A third piece of writing will be shared on the read-a-round on the last day of class, but will not be submitted

### **GRADING**

- Grades be based on assessments of daily reading/writing assignments, participation in class, the two published written submissions, and the final presentation

### **Late Work.**

Late work will not be accepted.

**Appeal of the Final Grade** (13.99.99.R0.05 Student's Appeal of Instructor's Evaluation, Effective September 1, 1996. Revised December 15, 1999, Revised February 8, 2007)

The final grades awarded by faculty members are their expert judgment concerning student performance. Students challenging a final grade must show that the instructor's judgment was unfair based on:

- a) some basis other than performance, or
- b) standards different from those applied to other students in the same course section, or

c) a substantial, unreasonable, and unannounced departure from previously articulated standards or the syllabus.

1. Students who believe their grade to be unfair must first discuss the matter with the instructor.
2. If no satisfactory resolution is reached with the instructor, or if the instructor is unavailable, the student shall appeal to the department head. A grade appeal must be initiated in writing with the department head (or dean if the department head is the instructor) within six months of the last day of the semester in which the grade was awarded. The department head will examine the student's appeal to determine whether the student has established an apparent case of unfair academic evaluation as described in section 1. If the student has not established a case that appears to have merit, the department head will so inform the student and the instructor without delay.
3. If the case has merit, the department head will secure, from all parties, written statements and other such information as he or she deems helpful and will issue his or her findings and remedies, if any. In so doing, the department head will be guided by the principle the burden of proof lies with the student.
4. For additional information regarding the appeal of a final grade above that of the department head, please consult the latest version of the graduate catalog or contact the Head of the Department, Curriculum and Instruction, at 903-886-5537.

### **Academic Integrity/Honest Statement**

This course demands a high level of scholarly behavior and academic honesty on the part of students. Examples of academic dishonesty include but are not limited to: (1) turning in work as original that was used in whole or part for another course and/or instructor without obtaining permission from this instructor in advance; (2) turning in another person's work, in part or in whole, as your own; (3) copying from professional works without citing them; and (4) any form of cheating on exams. Violations of academic integrity/honesty while carrying out academic assignments may, at the discretion of the instructor, receive a zero on the particular work in question, receive an "F" in the course, or brought before a higher level of governance for possible dismissal from the university.

### **University Specific Procedures:**

#### **ADA Statement**

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

**Office of Student Disability Resources and Services**

**Texas A&M University-Commerce**

**Gee Library 132**

**Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835**

**Fax (903) 468-8148**

[StudentDisabilityServices@tamu-commerce.edu](mailto:StudentDisabilityServices@tamu-commerce.edu)

[Student Disability Resources & Services](#)

### **Student Conduct**

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. (See Code of Student Conduct from Student Guide Handbook). Use of cell phones, texting or email devices during class is forbidden. In the event of an emergency, students should excuse themselves from the classroom to receive/make a communication and should return to class as soon as possible.