



“Addressing Another” writing

Duration: Eight hour-long sessions, schedule to be determined
Location: Tutor’s Zoom link & Google docs

Course Description: - "Addressing another" is a creative writing class that shows the possibilities of second-person writing, using the "you" pronoun in order to compose letters, apostrophes, odes, poem exchanges, choose-your-own-adventures, and more. The course is designed to build students’ skill, joy, and confidence in writing.

Course Objectives: By the end of the course, students will:

- Work with various texts and writing assignments that advance and complicate their understanding of literature’s possibilities
 - Learn how to address a subject directly using meaningful written language
 - Learn about the process of invention, writing, and revision in a positive environment
 - Learn to work meaningfully in a small group setting
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Calendar: This calendar, like life, is subject to change, and may be modified by individual tutors to fit the needs of the particular class

Week 1: The epistolary poem

- Students will learn the definition of, and discuss occasions for writing, epistolary poems, or poems in the form of letters.
- Students will read and analyze a published poem in the form of a letter to another.
- Students will begin to compose a thoughtful epistolary response to the published poem-letter, using creativity and empathy to capture the subject’s voice.

Week 2: Call and response

- Students will listen to and engage with a musical example of “call and response.”
- Students will read a back-and-forth poem exchange involving two contemporary poets, and discuss what meanings can be accomplished within this particular genre of writing.
- Students will create a narrator, from whose perspective they will compose their homework assignments, by considering strange and revealing details about them.

Week 3: Poem exchange

- Students will listen to and engage with another musical example of “call and response.”
- Students will read and analyze another poem-exchange between two contemporary poets, whose lives are contained in the poems in subtle, imagistic ways.



- Students will respond to a creative prompt from the perspective of the same narrator they'd created from the previous class, developing that narrator's persona and story.

Week 4: Apostrophe

- Students will learn the meanings of, and examples of, the literary forms of the apostrophe and ode.
- Students will read aloud and discuss a poetic ode that celebrates an inanimate object.
- Students will begin to write an ode and apostrophe of their own, using figurative language and memorable imagery.

Week 5: What's in a Name?

- Students will learn the meanings of, and examples of, the literary forms of metonymy and synesthesia.
- Students will read aloud and discuss a Shakespearean passage, and the contemporary play that it inspired, which meditate on "names."
- Students will examine authors' uses of figurative language and synesthesia in poems.
- Students will begin writing a poem mediating on the name of someone they care about, using the literary devices learned in class to achieve their desired effects.

Week 6: The Second-Person Short Story

- Students will read and engage with an excerpt from a well-known short story that uses second-person perspective in innovative ways.
- Students will begin to compose a second-person story of their own, revealing their narrator's life story and career path using strategic details.

Week 7: Choose Your Own Adventure Story

- Students will learn about the form and history of the Choose Your Own Adventure (CYOA) series.
- Students will read and engage with sample CYOA's, which give readers the decision-making power within the story.
- Students will begin a collaborative in-class writing exercise in which they build a CYOA story together.

Week 8: The Ode

- Students will read and engage with a quote to stimulate creative and analytical thinking.
- Students will define and read models of the poetic form of the ode.
- Students will write an ode of their own to celebrate an unconventional subject.
- Students will reflect on the class and the creative work they've produced.