

CREATIVE WRITING

MR. STAPLETON

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FIRST AND SECOND PERIOD

ROOM 131

“Ideas are cheap. It’s the execution that is all important.” – George R.R. Martin
- Mr. Stapleton, 2021

Welcome to Creative Writing, one of the most unique courses offered at Northwest! In this class you will read a bit and write *a lot*, but it likely will not feel like a typical English or literature class.

Writing is all about expressing *your* ideas, and it is the goal of this class to unlock the unique perspective that each student has to share. This class will be a constant learning process, so all students will be trusted (and expected) to put forth their best effort at all times, regardless of prior writing experience.

Though there will (of course) be tons to learn about, study, and discuss, *this course is a writing-intensive class*. We will be doing a great deal of writing in our time together, so it is imperative that students arrive to class each day well-rested, hydrated, and prepared to read, write, listen, speak, and – most importantly – think.

The following materials should be brought to every class:

- **Notebook OR journal exclusively for use in this class**

This will be used for daily journal entries and specified writing assignments.

- **Personal or district-provided laptop**

Students will regularly need access to the web for reference, inspiration, and various class tasks. Additionally, laptops or devices may be used for ongoing writing assignments upon request, at Mr. Stapleton’s sole discretion. Daily assignments must be done in journals when directed.

- **Pencil, sharpened and with eraser**
- Pen (not required, but some prefer it to writing in pencil)
- Water bottle (again, not required, but always a good idea)

Students should expect to share their work regularly in class, and be prepared and willing to provide praise, constructive criticism, and insight to their fellow classmates.

In addition, students will be reading literature from both within and outside the contemporary Western canon, and will have the opportunity to read and/or observe pieces from a diverse range of social, cultural, and historical perspectives. Students will engage critically with the texts *and* with the world around them, and emerge with a clearer understanding of writing, language, storytelling in general, or, simply, humanity and its nature.