Course Goals:
1. To increase your understanding of positions on creativity
2. To exercise your creative potential
3. To introduce you to college level work

Required Course Materials:
1. Tablet of paper - preferably unlined - brought to class daily
2. Camera - preferably digital - cheap disposable is fine
3. Books:
   - On Becoming an Artist by Ellen J. Langer (2005) (L)
   - Creativity for Critical Thinkers by Anthony Weston (2007) (W)
   - The Elements of Style: Illustrated by Strunk and White (2005) (S&W)
4. Other readings available at www.hu.mtu.edu/~jdslack/un1001
5. Something (notebook, folder, box, bag, journal, whatever) to turn in all materials that "show your work"

Grading:
While there are both formal and informal assignments, you will be graded primarily on PROCESS rather than PRODUCT.

By process I mean the following:
1. Your willingness to engage the material - to play, to be mindfully present, to imagine, to concentrate, to contribute to a creative class environment, to produce assignments that take creativity seriously.
2. Regular class attendance
3. Completion of all assignments (required to pass class)
4. Academic integrity. Any instance of academic dishonesty (for example, plagiarism) will result in your being reported to the Dean of Students for disciplinary action.

To assess process, I will evaluate each of you individually. You will help this process by "showing your work." Keep all efforts, drafts, notes, images, whatever, to submit in a journal, notebook, folder, box, bag, whatever.

Grade: 60% Process 40% Product
UN1001 Course Schedule (I reserve the right to respond to class needs and change this syllabus to enhance your learning experience)

Sept 4 & 6  
Play! (And the seriousness of creativity)
  Ackerman, "Deep Play"; Breen, "The 6 Myths" #1DUE

Sept 11 & 13  
Mindfulness
  L 1, 2  #2 DUE

Sept 18 & 20  
Everyday creativity/genius - library orientation TBA
  L 7; Booth, "Trade Secrets"

Sept 25 & 26  
Evaluation, peer pressure, avoidance
  L 3, 6

Oct 2 & 4  
Knowing (Oct 2 - Career Day)
  L 8

Oct 9 & 11  
The recipe; the rules
  L 5; Silver Palate, "Curried Butternut Squash Soup"  #3 DUE

Oct 16 & 18  
Context; the frame
  Photos  #4 DUE

Oct 23 & 25  
Mistakes
  L 4

Oct 30 & Nov 1  
Problem Solving - brainstorming
  W 1, 2, 3

Nov 6 & 8  
Problem Solving
  W 4, 5, 6

Nov 13 & 15  
No Class-Read-Exercise: Doing good; ethics
  L 9, 10; Tharp, "Pick a fight"

Nov 20 & 22  
THANKSGIVING RECESS - No Class
  S&W

Nov 27 & 29  
Grammar and editing
  S&W  #5 DUE

Dec 4 & 6  
Creativity in YOUR area of interest
  (Reading tailored to your interest)  #6 DUE

Dec 11 & 13  
Creativity in YOUR area of interest
  (Reading tailored to your interest)  #6 DUE
Formal Assignments:

In addition to various informal assignments:

1. Essay on
   "If I was creative, I would..." (3 pages)
2. Essay on
   An experience of being totally engaged, (whether you call it deep play, flow, really into it.) Describe the state, the passing of time, the quality of your sensing (smell, taste, touch, sight), the effort engaged, the pleasure or displeasure, etc. Was it rewarding, exhausting, exhilarating, etc? (3 pages)
3. Essay exploring a rule or recipe. (4 pages)
4. Photos of found faces
5. Paper explaining a rule of grammar or punctuation, with examples (artwork?) (2 pages)
6. Presentation/paper on creativity in an area of interest to you, including analysis of a reading. (8 pages)

Due dates are listed on course schedule. In addition, all work and all drafts, notes, mistakes, etc, should be turned in at the end of the class - in order to SHOW YOUR WORK. You will be able to pick it up after grades are submitted.

Think around corners.....