INTRODUCTION TO CREATIVE WRITING (online)
HU2110.R01, Summer 2011

COURSE DESCRIPTION
In this online course, students will study and practice the art of the writing life, process and craft, both as a reader and as a writer (two state inseparable for the writer). Students will read daily and purposefully, looking to how language is used on the page by those who do it best. Students will write daily and purposefully, both informally (by keeping a writer’s journal) and formally (by creating more exacting works in the literary genres of poetry, short literary fiction, short literary nonfiction and the one-act play). As writers, students will learn to differentiate the facts of craft and process from the mythology and romanticization of the writer and the writing life. They will learn to create little boxes of the world, cabinets of curiosity into which they will place their tarantulas, old newspapers, broken sex toys, jars of pickled mushrooms, sombreros, rolled up tubes of acne cream, tiger lilies, tobacco-stained false teeth, lipstick-stained cigarette butts, crows' feet, naked Bible salesmen, bloody Band-aids, hairy warts, one-eyed cats and three-legged dogs—details burning angry, mean and bright. Students will learn to craft writing that offers readers of their creations more than the mere suggestion of a reality, but a vision of a world that creates its own.

NOTE: This course will be facilitated via Facebook (please join the group asap) and your university registered email account. The Facebook group HU2110 Introduction To Creative Writing is set up as “secret” so only members can see the group, who’s in it, and what members post.

COURSE INFORMATION
• Professor: M. Bartley Seigel (Matt)
• Professor Email: mbseigel@mtu.edu
• Office Hours: Available via email, phone, or Skype by appointment only. Please email Matt for an appointment.
• Required Texts (1): Burroway, Imaginative Writing.
• Recommended Texts (1): Strunk & White, The Elements of Style.

COURSE POLICIES
• Students must fulfill their responsibilities as students: Completing all assignments on deadline, reading, taking notes, writing, revising, studying, participating in online forums, posing pertinent questions, engaging the materials, and being an engaging participant.
• Despite it’s being "online," this course will roughly adhere to the standard Michigan Tech summer schedule of Monday through Thursday. But, because "attendance" isn’t really an issue for an entirely online course, the stress will be more on meeting deadlines (all deadlines will occur within the Monday-Thursday schedule). That said, no late assignments will be accepted under any circumstances. Failure to make deadlines will result in an automatic F on that assignment. No coursework can be "made up." Turning work in early is always acceptable, though students are encouraged to stick close to deadlines. Plan ahead and accordingly.
• Integrity and ethics are central. Something less than an engaged commitment to integrity and ethics undermines the efforts of our entire community. Every member of our community is responsible and culpable. Breaking this compact will result in an automatic F for the course.
• Michigan Tech encourages ALL qualified persons to participate in its programs and activities. If you anticipate needing any type of accommodation in this course or have questions about physical access, please contact Professor Seigel as soon as possible and/or visit the Office of Student Affairs or phone 487-2951.
• Because of the nature of creative writing and its emphasis on process and craft, students can expect the following point system on all graded course work: 3 = Very good to excellent, the student exceeded most to all course expectations; 2 = OK, the student met course expectations; 1 = Inferior, the student met few course expectations; 0 = Failure, the student failed to make deadline and/or met few if any of the course expectations.