Developing the Creative Imagination in the Arts
HM 51

Professor Lori DiTaranto  
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MONDAY 12:30-3:15pm  
Orient 100

Creativity is not something that I believe can truly be graded. This is why the work done while in these classroom sessions will be very important. Your progress will be visible through your work. Hopefully, throughout this semester you will be able to grow and stretch your imagination, while learning about the creative process. The more creative your work, the higher your grade will be. The creation of this class is creative in itself and we will be changing and adapting according to the needs of the participants. I hope this will be fun and I hope that everyone will come away having learned something about themselves as well as the creative process.

3 PROJECTS

Three projects will be mandatory within the semester. They may be completed in any discipline- photography, short stories, poems, drawings, video, music, or whatever you can think of. All projects should be presented in a professional manner and delivered on time. We will discuss the projects individually before they are due. Projects must be handed in on their required due dates. If they are handed in late, you will be dropped one grade and projects will not be accepted after two weeks of lateness.

FINAL PAPER

A four-to-six page paper will be due at the end of the semester. It will be a research paper discussing the creative process of an individual from history or the present day. An idea or artistic movement may also be an option. This paper will evaluate the creative process. It should not be presented as a biography or book report but as an actual examination of someone else’s road to creative genius. At least three references will be required and should be formatted in the MLA style. You will be required to submit your subject before the paper is due.

GRADES

Grades will be comprised of and worth the following:

- In-Class Work and Homework: 15 percent
- Project 1: 15 percent
- Project 2: 20 percent
- Project 3: 20 percent
- Final Paper: 20 percent
- Class Participation and Attendance: 10 percent
- 100 percent
ATTENDANCE

You are allowed two absences from class. A resulting grade of F will come with the third absence of the semester. Three late arrivals will count as one absence. This policy will be strictly enforced. Any class work or homework that is missed due to absences is your responsibility.

WEEK 1 (September 11th)
Introductions
Syllabus
What is Creativity?
Project #1 Assigned

WEEK 2 (September 18th)
Cracking Creativity

WEEK 3 (September 25th)
Project #1 Due
MOVIE- “The Mystery of Genius”
Film Paper Assigned- “How does this film relate to the principles of Cracking Creativity?”

WEEK 4 (October 9th)
Inspiration

WEEK 5 (October 16th)
Project #2 Assigned
Film Paper Due
Quotes

WEEK 6 (October 23rd)
Left Brain/Right Brain Thinking

WEEK 7 (October 30th)
Project #2 Due
Picture Quiz
“Baraka”

WEEK 8 (November 6th)
Movie –Da Vinci Biography
Da Vinci Modern Marvels
Film Paper Assigned- “What did you learn about Leonardo Da Vinci? Why is he considered a master of creativity?”

WEEK 9 (November 7th)
Thinking Exercises

WEEK 10 (November 13th)
Film Paper Due
Project #3 Assigned
Final Paper Guidelines
Grade Report
Extra Credit

WEEK 11 (November 20th)
IFC Documentary
Film Paper Assigned- “What is this documentary saying about creativity in the films of today?”

WEEK 12 (November 27th)  IFC Documentary continued
Announce Final Paper Topic In Class

WEEK 13 (December 4th)  Project #3 Due- Presented In Class

WEEK 14 (December 11th)  Project #3 Presentations Finished

WEEK 15 (December 18th)  Final Paper Due
Review the Semester

*This syllabus is subject to change at any time during the semester, according to classroom needs.