

Tompkins Cortland Community College
Master Course Syllabus

Course Discipline and Number: ENGL 275
Course Title: Getting Published - Prose and Poetry

Year: 2024-2025
Credit Hours: 1

Attendance Policy: *To maintain good grades, regular attendance in class is necessary. Absence from class is considered a serious matter and absence never excuses a student from class work. It is the responsibility of all instructors to distribute reasonable attendance policies in writing during the first week of class. Students are required to comply with the attendance policy set by each of their instructors. Students are not penalized if they are unable to attend classes or participate in exams on particular days because of religious beliefs, in accordance with Chapter 161, Section 224-a of the Education Law of the State of New York. Students who plan to be absent from classroom activity for religious reasons should discuss the absence in advance with their instructors. See college catalog for more information.*

Services for Students with Disabilities: *It is the College's policy to provide, on an individual basis, appropriate academic adjustments for students with disabilities, which may affect their ability to fully participate in program or course activities or to meet course requirements. Students with disabilities should contact the Coordinator of Access and Equity Services, to discuss their particular need for accommodations. All course materials are available in alternate formats upon request.*

Course Description

Creative Writing Course: This course examines the approaches writers use to get their work read and published by writing markets, including literary presses, book publishers, magazines, and online publications. Major topics include researching and targeting appropriate markets and developing letters of inquiry, book proposals, and other tools. Literary agents, writers' groups, conferences, fellowships and competitions, and writers' guides are discussed. Basic legal concerns, such as contracts and copyright issues, are introduced. Prerequisites: ENGL 102; prior completion or concurrent enrollment in RDNG 116 if required by placement testing. 1 Cr. (1 Lec.) Spring semester.

Course Context/Audience

This course is intended for students taking courses in the prose and poetry concentration of the Creative Writing Certificate program and the prose, poetry, and drama concentration of the Creative Writing A. A. degree program. The course may also be of interest to other writers in the college community who are interested in learning how to target and query appropriate markets for their writing.

Basic Skills/Entry Level Expectations

Writing: WC College level writing skills are required. See course co-requisites or pre-requisites.
Math: M0 Course requires very little or no math.
Reading: R3 Course may be taken concurrently with RDNG 116.

Course Goals

As a result of taking this course, students will:

- a) Learn to research and target appropriate writing markets.
- b) Complete hands-on activities designed to help them submit their writing to appropriate markets.
- c) Gain an understanding of the basic legal and business concerns faced by free-lance writers.
- d) Become familiar with resources used by writers.
- e) Become familiar with how writers interact with literary agents, publishers, and editors.

Course Objectives/Topics

Objective/Topic	% Course
Marketing tools (queries, book proposals, clipping files)	40%
Networking (conferences, writers' groups, agents, publishers, editors)	20%
Legal and business concerns (copyright, contracts, writing submission records)	20%
Resources (print and online, competitions, fellowships, workshops)	20%

General Education Goals - Critical Thinking & Social/Global Awareness

Critical Thinking Outcomes	How does the course address Critical Thinking (include required or recommended instructional resources, strategies, learning activities, assignments, etc., that must or could be used.)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Students will be able to develop meaningful questions to address problems or issues.➤ Students will be able to gather, interpret, and evaluate relevant sources of information.➤ Students will be able to reach informed conclusions and solutions.➤ Students will be able to consider analytically the viewpoints of self and others.	<p>Students participate in class lectures and discussions about how to get work published. Students use what they learn in the class and in the assigned readings to develop the tools necessary to submit their work to appropriate writing markets.</p> <p>Students learn how to identify and approach appropriate writing markets and how to interact with agents, publishers, and editors.</p>

Social/Global Awareness Outcomes	How does the course address Social/Global Awareness (include required or recommended instructional resources, strategies, learning activities, assignments, etc., that must or could be used)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Students will begin to understand how their lives shape and are shaped by the complex world in which they live.➤ Students will understand that their actions have social, economic, and environmental consequences.	<p>The internet has created a global audience for creative writers and changed the nature of what it means to be “published.”</p> <p>Also, the world of digital content production is changing attitudes and ideas about intellectual property ownership and use.</p> <p>Students in this class explore these issues and how their creative writing efforts and other participation in the global conversation (blogging, for example), can have social consequences.</p>

Instructional Methods

Lectures, discussion, collaborative activities, writing activities

Methods of Assessment/Evaluation

Method	% Course Grade
Development of marketing tools (written assignments)	25%
Researching and targeting markets (action plans)	25%
The business of free-lancing - contracts, copyright, record keeping (response paper)	25%
Resources (response paper)	25%

Text(s)

Students must select one or more of the following texts or an alternative text with instructor permission.

Novel & Short Story Writer's Market, Bowling, Anne and Michael Schweer, (current edition) Writer's Digest Books Cincinnati, OH. Writer's Digest Books

Poet's Market (current edition), Breen, Nancy and Erica Kruse, Cincinnati, OH: Writer's Digest.

Writer's Market, Brogan, Kathryn Struckel, and Robert Lee Brewer, (current edition) Cincinnati, OH: Writer's Digest Books.

Dramatists Sourcebook (current edition) New York: Theatre Communications Group.

Children's Writer's & Illustrator's Market (current edition) Pope, Alice and Rebecca Chrysler, Cincinnati, OH: Writer's Digest. Writer's Digest

Bibliography

Allen, Moira Anderson. The Writer's Guide to Queries, Pitches & Proposals. 2nd Ed. New York: Allworth Press, 2010.

Banks, Michael A. Blogging Heroes: Interviews with 30 of the World's Top Bloggers. Indianapolis: John Wiley and Sons, 2008.

Formichelli, Linda and Diana Burrell. The Renegade Writer: A Totally Unconventional Guide to Freelance Writing Success. Oak Park, IL: Marion St. Press, 2005.

Glatzer, Jenna. Make a Real Living as a Freelance Writer: How to Win Top Writing Assignments. Chicago: Nomad Press, 2004.

Larsen, Michael. How to Write a Book Proposal. 3rd ed. Cincinnati, OH: Writer's Digest Books, 2003.

Ruberg, Michelle. Writer's Digest Handbook of Magazine Article Writing. Cincinnati, OH: Writer's Digest Books, 2005.

Segall, Miriam. Career Building Through Fan Fiction Writing: New Work Based on Favorite Fiction. Rosen Publishing Group, 2008.

Walin, Terry W. Book Proposals that Sell: 21 Secrets to Speed Your Success. Phoenix: Write Now Publications, 2005.

2014 Writer's Market Guide to Getting Published. Cincinnati, OH: Writer's Digest Books, 2013.

Other Learning Resources

Audiovisual

TC3 Media Collection

Electronic

Library databases (Proquest, Infotrac, Worldcat, and others) used for research.

The library owns a number of print and online magazines and journals for professional writers that will be useful to students in this program, including Writer's Digest, Writer, Poets and Writers.

Other:

Internet and email access.

Appropriate instructional technology including internet access and projection, and computer lab access (word processing software).