

שם הקורס: Creative Writing מס׳ קורס : שם המרצה: Dalia Rosenfeld שעות קבלה: M 10:30-11:30

<u>יעדי ההוראה</u>:

Learning objectives:

--To address the mechanics of fiction while developing tools to enhance the emotional response of the reader

--To learn to read as writers by analyzing short works of literature and their strategic motifs.

-- To observe our environment as a means to locate our literary voice.

<u>פרשיות לימודים:</u>

#### Week 1

Introduction to class

Crafting concepts: What is a story? Writing with concision (Flash Fiction)

Readings: "The Rock," "Flashing Fiction," "The Marriage of Abdel Sattar and Laila," "A Graveyard of Ladybugs," "Marbles," "Salma's Hair Ties," "Garlic in Fiction"

### Week 2

Crafting concepts: evoking emotion through objects; irony & absurdity

Readings: "The School," "The First Thing the Baby Did Wrong," "Should Literature Aim for the Heart or the Head?" Hemingway's Iceberg Theory

### Week 3

Crafting concepts: plot progressions; defying expectations

Readings: "Popular Mechanics," "Why Don't You Dance?" Winning entries from Flash Fiction contest

### Week 4

Crafting concepts: showing versus telling (dramatizing emotions)

Readings: "Letter to a Peas Manufacturer," "Letter to a Funeral Parlor," "The Problem with the Vacuum Cleaner," "The Story of the Stolen Salami"

## Week 5

Crafting concept: theme (the universal vs. the particular); role reversals

Readings: "Freedom of Expression," "Expired Eyes," "Ahmad's Sheep"

## Week 6

Crafting concept: conflict; internal/external struggle; character development (interpretive details/distinguishing features)

Readings: "Florals," "The Blind," "My Car," "The Watermelon," "Alone at Night"

# Week 7

Crafting concepts: satire/humor; subtext

Readings: Selections from "The Onion"

# Week 8

Crafting concepts: implicit vs. explicit endings (ambiguity); taking risks

Readings: "The Rooster," "Apples," selected stories/excerpts from "The New Yorker"

## Week 9

Crafting concepts: conveying simple truths through unconventional means; detail

Readings: "Sticks," "Write it Down," "The Dog Hair," "The Rock"

## Week 10

Crafting concepts: elevating our writing through research and revision

Readings: TBA

- Class attendance and participation, 10%.

Attendance and arriving to class on time are mandatory. More than two unexcused absences will negatively affect your final class grade. Regularly arriving late will also result in a lower grade. Reading assignments are expected to be completed before class.

### Creative work, 70%

Your grade for this component of the class will be based on your proficiency in various crafting concepts we will study during the course of the semester. It will not be determined by the degree to which I "like" your story.

Reading responses, 10%

Short written responses to assigned readings

Final in-class writing assignment, 10%