

# Writing Syllabus

Class	Creative Essay Writing	Time	19:00 – 20:30	Day	Tuesdays/Thursdays
Professor	Jean Gray	Email	<a href="mailto:jeankgray@kaist.ac.kr">jeankgray@kaist.ac.kr</a>		
Textbook	Instructor will provide all materials.				
Level	Intermediate/Advanced				
Course objectives	Students will practice using metaphors, storytelling, and expressive tone in their writing as a part of crafting and revising a personal/creative essay.				
Course Description	In this course, students will learn basic storytelling structure as well as components of engaging narrative writing. As the time allowed for this course is quite short, we will focus on creation and revision of a single essay. The writing will be done systematically and with attention to detail.				
Course Plan	Day	Topic			
	1	<p>Thinking about ‘voice’ in writing:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Warm-up (15 min) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Group reflection: “What makes a story engaging?”</li> </ul> </li> <li>2. Mini Lecture: Essay Basics + Creative Twist (25 min) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Standard essay structure (hook – thesis – body – conclusion)</li> <li>-Introducing <i>voice, tone, and metaphor</i></li> <li>- Model essay excerpt analysis</li> </ul> </li> <li>3. Writing Activity: Paragraph Practice (30 min) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Prompt: “<i>Describe a turning point in your life</i>”</li> <li>- Focus: Clear topic sentence + vivid detail</li> </ul> </li> <li>4. Peer Sharing &amp; Reflection (20 min) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Share in pairs</li> <li>-Brief feedback on clarity &amp; creativity</li> </ul> </li> </ol>			
	2	<p>“Show, don’t tell” – Developing a description</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Warm-up (10 min) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Metaphor building game: Life = ___? Emotions = ?</li> </ul> </li> <li>2. Skill Focus: Showing vs. Telling (20 min) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Example rewrites: flat → vivid</li> <li>-Sentence upgrade practice</li> </ul> </li> <li>3. Main Writing Activity (40 min) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Prompt: “<i>Describe a moment of challenge or growth</i>”</li> <li>-Apply metaphors, sensory details, personal voice</li> </ul> </li> <li>4. Small Group Feedback (15 min) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Focus on vividness, emotional clarity, originality</li> <li>-Students give “glow and grow” comments</li> </ul> </li> </ol>			

	Day	Topic
Course Plan Con't	3	<p>Thinking about structure and flow</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Mini Lecture: Essay Planning (20 min)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Thesis statement</li> <li>-Topic sentence patterns</li> <li>-Transition phrases</li> </ul> </li> <li>2. <b>Main Task: Essay Drafting (45 min)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Write 3-paragraph essay (Intro + 2 Body Paragraphs)</li> <li>-Prompt options: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>"The day that changed me"</i></li> <li><i>"The best mistake I ever made"</i></li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>3. <b>Peer Review (10 min)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Swap essays for quick feedback using checklist</li> </ul> </li> <li>4. <b>Wrap-up (5 min)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Tips for strong conclusions</li> </ul> </li> </ol>
	4	<p>Revising and sharing your story</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Warm-up: Language Boost (15 min)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Improve 5 "meh" sentences using vivid language</li> <li>-Add strong verbs or sensory details</li> </ul> </li> <li>2. <b>Final Draft Time (35 min)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Edit and polish essay</li> <li>-Apply peer/instructor comments</li> </ul> </li> <li>3. <b>Reading Circle: Share Out Loud (30 min)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Each student reads a favorite paragraph</li> <li>-Reflection &amp; Wrap-Up (10 min) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-"What I discovered about my writing voice"</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ol>