English 704.001 TEACHING CREATIVE WRITING Fall, 2022

Wednesdays, 5:30-8:10 p.m. CRT 103

Professor: Valerie Laken
Office: CRT 568
Office Hours: TBA

Email: laken@uwm.edu

Reading Assignments: Will be available on Canvas

Course Description:

This course is designed to help graduate students develop theoretical expertise as well as practical training in the teaching of creative writing. We will focus primarily on the teaching of poetry and fiction, but students who wish to focus on other genres (nonfiction, drama, screenwriting, visual lit, etc.) are encouraged to do so. No prior experience teaching creative writing is required; discussions and assignments will be tailored to each student's level of experience. Our goal is not to encourage one particular methodology but to help each student refine their own philosophy of teaching and develop effective strategies for implementing it. Students from outside the Creative Writing program are welcome.

Course Objectives / Topics Covered:

- History and trends in creative writing pedagogy.
- Ethical, philosophical, and socio-political challenges involved in the teaching of writing.
- New frameworks and innovative/alternative methods for teaching creative writing.
- Effective course planning.
- Techniques for maximizing student engagement in and outside class.
- Effective and sustainable strategies for responding to student work.
- Career planning and job market preparation, including teaching portfolios.
- Developing a teaching strategy that aligns with your own carefully considered goals and principles.