Liberty Middle School
281 Dock Murphy Drive, Madison, Alabama 35758
Creative Writing I
Mrs. Kassidy Hutchison

Teacher Contact Information	**Email:** kthutchison@madisoncity.k12.al.us **Phone:** 256-430-0001
Classroom Digital Platforms	**Webpage Link: Mrs. Hutchison's LMS Webpage**
Textbook Information	No textbook is utilized for Creative Writing I.
Course Description	In this course, students will explore how writing expands our understanding of the world, its people, and one's self. Students will receive an overview of writing strategies including an emphasis on narrative structure, mechanics, and craft. Students will create a variety of original pieces that encompass multiple genres including poetry, narratives, micro fiction and much more. By the end of the course, students will understand that creative writing is a reflective, multi-step process that benefits from collaboration and feedback from others.
Course Objectives	Creative Writing provides students with opportunities to develop their literary talents.The purpose of creative writing is to inspire students to express themselves through the exploration of various writing styles and techniques. Students will develop clear and concise writing skills through the execution of writing assignments and the application of proofreading and editing skills. Students will develop and display clear written and verbal communication skills.
Course Outline	**Unit 1:** Personal Narrative **Unit 2:** Poetry **Unit 3:** Comic Books **Unit 4:** Short Stories (Final project for the course) *These units are subject to change depending on the needs and interests of students in the class.*
Classroom Expectations	1. No cell phones allowed during instructional time. 2. Be seated and ready for class when the bell rings. Students tardy to class will receive a detention per LMS policy. 3. Come prepared for class. Bring all necessary supplies. 4. Respect your teacher, your classmates, and yourself. 5. If it's not yours, don't touch it. Keep your hands and feet to yourself. 6. Bring your school-issued Chromebook (fully charged) and charger daily. Keep all personal electronic devices (cell phones, air pods, headphones, tablets, etc.) silenced and stored in designated classroom location. **All students must follow the Madison City Schools Code of Conduct.**
Technology & Cell Phone Procedures	Students should bring their MCS chromebooks and chargers to class each day. Teachers monitor student activity and participation; however, students are responsible for their activity on school-issued devices and using their MCS accounts. Cell phones and earbuds/headphones will not be allowed to be used during classroom instruction time. Phones and earbuds/headphones will be put away in a location designated by the teacher and placed in silent mode. Students will have access to their phones and earbuds/headphones outside of classroom instruction time, such as between classes and during lunch, but devices should be put away when

	students are in the serving line. Failure to follow these procedures will result in a disciplinary referral to the office.
Progressive Discipline *(LMS Policy)*	Liberty Middle School Classroom Management Plan: **Step 1:** Verbal warning **Step 2:** Student/teacher conference with parent notification **Step 3:** Parent contact/conference **Step 4:** Detention **Step 5:** Referral to administration for repeat Class I violations and initial Class II and Class III offenses (**Madison City Schools Code of Conduct**)
Grading Policy *(MCS Policy)*	**60%** = Assessments (Tests, Essays, Projects) **40%** = Daily Grades (Quizzes, Homework, Classwork, and Participation) Writing may be assessed using Turnitin.
Late Work Policy	10% will be deducted off the assignment per week late. After three weeks, the maximum grade a student can receive on a late assignment is 65%.
Make-up Work/Test Policy	Students with excused absences will be allowed to make-up all work within THREE (3) days of returning to school per excused absence. **It is the student's responsibility to ask for make-up work**. Students are asked to check Schoology for any work missed in class. There is a weekly folder where the lesson will be available to access. Students will need to connect with the teacher to pick up any missed handouts upon return. **For each assignment submitted on Schoology after the deadline, a Late/Missing Work Submission Form must be completed in order to receive a grade.** **If a student is absent on the day of the test, it is the student's responsibility to communicate with Mrs. Hutchison to schedule a day/time to make up the test. To receive credit, tests must be made up within three days of an absence**
Materials & Supplies	Students will need a three-prong folder, composition book, a small binder, or a designated section of a binder for this course.
Homework	Students will not be assigned work to complete outside of the class block. The only way students will have homework is if they do not complete their classwork within the class block. Students will be given ample time to complete the assigned writing assignments in class.
Cheating, Plagiarism, and AI	**Cheating (Per the MCS Student Code of Conduct):** A student who cheats will not receive credit for the work in question. If any other student has cooperated in the cheating, that student is also considered to have cheated and will not receive credit. Cheating students will also be subject to the consequences in the disciplinary consequences in Section XXII. Cheating is defined to include, but is not limited to: a) Copying someone else's work in or out of class and identifying it and submitting it as your own b) Failing to quote and/or list appropriate citations for material derived from published sources (including the Internet) and identifying and submitting it as your own c) The use of unauthorized notes, other materials, or assistance during the accomplishment of graded work in or out of class d) Any other situation in which the student attempts to or accepts credit for work not his or her own **Plagiarism:** Plagiarism on an assignment directly violates the above excerpt from the MCS Student Code of Conduct; therefore, the student will not receive credit for the work in question. **Artificial Intelligence (AI):** The unauthorized use of AI on an assignment directly violates the MCS Student Code of Conduct; therefore, the student will not receive credit for the work in question. Any work written, developed, created, or inspired by artificial intelligence without explicit permission from the teacher is considered plagiarism.

This syllabus is subject to change.

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Please use the QR code to sign up for my weekly distribution list emails! →
(This form is also linked in my Schoology page if you would prefer to complete it on your computer.)

Welcome to Creative Writing I! We are going to have a great quarter together.

Please make sure you and a parent/guardian carefully read over the syllabus and expectations for this class. Additionally, make sure your parent/guardian completes the **Distribution List Sign Up** which can be accessed through the QR code above or my teacher webpage on the LMS website. Once you have finished, have your parent/guardian complete this page so you can return it to class by August 8th. Thank you!

Student Name (Please print)	

Parent/Guardian Name (Please print)	

Syllabus Acknowledgement

Please sign below to acknowledge the following:
I have read and understand Mrs. Hutchison's classroom policies, procedures, expectations, and syllabus.

As a **student**, I agree to abide by the classroom guidelines.
As a **parent**, I am aware of the policies/procedures and have discussed them with my child.

As a **student**, I have read and understand Mrs. Hutchison's classroom policies, procedures, expectations, and syllabus.	(Student Sign Here)
As a **parent**, I have read and understand Mrs. Hutchison's classroom policies, procedures, expectations, and syllabus.	(Parent/Guardian Sign Here)

Question/Comments/Concerns