

8th-12th
Grades
4th Period

Creative Writing for Podcasting

Instructor: Benjamin Dykstra

Email: bendykstra@gmail.com

Phone: 269-303-5229

This course will focus on narrative craft and character development through the retelling of historical accounts, primarily in short story form. Students will write, then record on state-of-the-art podcasting equipment, learning to present their stories with a compelling voice in a modern format. Top quality projects will be distributed (with proper student permissions and credits) across popular channels including Apple Podcasts, Spotify, Google, Amazon, TuneIn, iHeart, Pandora, and more.

Course Overview:

Reading aloud from great examples of creative writing. Studying the narrative framework of historical records and discussing strategies to adapt them into compelling stories. Small group sessions to share and record completed writing projects. Historical accounts will be taken primarily from the Bible, with other sources included from time to time.

Students will have use of compact digital mixers and dynamic vocal microphones during class recording sessions. At times, this gear will be available to check out and take home to complete assigned projects and to encourage additional creativity. Use of this gear is included with materials.

You should expect to turn in at least 500 words per week. I'll also be providing a reading list and encouraging students to read for inspiration, although additional reading won't be required.

Required Materials:

Closed-back (over the ear) headphones for critical listening. Mixers and microphones will be provided, but students will need a laptop that can run free recording software such as GarageBand or Audacity. Any functional computer will most likely work. Windows/Mac operating systems are preferred. Notebook and pencil/pen.



Fees:

Self-Pay:

Tuition: \$350 is due 9/7/2022.

Materials Fee: \$50, non-refundable, due at registration (I'll contact you with payment details).

Please contact me if you'd prefer a tuition 2-payment option with \$200 due on 9/7/22 and \$200 on 1/18/23.

LAMP:

Tuition: \$350 is submitted to LAMP (\$38.89/mo)

Materials Fee: \$50, non-refundable, due at registration.

You are responsible for any balances not paid by LAMP.

This balance is due by 10/19/22. You must self-pay for any missed LAMP payments due to dropping after the 2nd class or not meeting LAMP requirements.

Meet the Instructor:

My name is Benjamin Dykstra. I'm a musician, writer, speaker, and teacher. I studied Theology, Writing, and Media Production at Calvin University, then spent 11 years in automotive retail management and sales coaching. In 2021 God called me in a new direction with the founding of All Creation Studios and a ministry position at Southridge Church as Director of Worship and Youth. My wife and I are both homeschool teachers, with four young students of our own. On days off, you'll most likely find us outside, exploring the woods or playing backyard sports.