FSAF: Creative Writing  
ENGL F495P, Two Credits  
July 14-28, 2011 M-F, Time: TBA  Location: TBA

**Instructor:** Professor Peggy Shumaker, instructor of record along with three other distinguished writers (e.g. some who have participated as instructors include William Kloefkorn (Nebraska State Poet), Sherry Simpson (UAA Associate Professor of Creative Writing), Jeanne E. Clark (Associate Professor of English at the University of California, Chico), Frank Soos (UAF Professor of Creative Writing, Emeritus))

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**Email:** peggyzoe@gmail.com

**Course description:**
During the Fairbanks Summer Arts Festival, the Creative Writing class will focus on the study and writing of poetry, fiction, and nonfiction. Students will participate in class for three hours in the morning and three hours in the afternoon M-F for the two weeks of Festival.

**Instructional Methods:**
Each student will write every day, under the guidance of the Festival creative writers. There will be four writers teaching, all with distinguished teaching experience. With the student-to-teacher ratio that this allows, students receive very personalized attention. Both poetry and prose will be addressed, and students may write either or both. Directed writing exercises, close readings of literature from writerly perspectives, and discussions of topics vital to writing will be included each day.

**Course Objectives:**
The class will focus on generating new writing. Students will practice several stages of the writing process: beginning, drafting, revising. At the end of the class, they will have a folder containing enough rough material to keep them busy for months, and some polished pieces.

**Expected Student Outcomes:**
These sessions will be especially good for:
- a. teachers who must motivate others (and themselves) to write
- b. writers who want fresh ideas and ways to focus their writing.
- c. students who want to hone their craft.

**Credit:**
This course is available for UAF credit. Students must be full-time registrants of the Fairbanks Summer Arts Festival and register for this class through UAF Summer Sessions. UAF Summer Sessions’ registration information is available at www.uaf.edu/summer.

University graduates or students with experience at the level of upper division university writing (junior or senior status) may register for English F495.

In order to receive undergraduate credit at the 400 level, students must participate in session discussions and readings, and must complete all writing assignments. They must make attempts to write new work that is mature, precise, graceful and vibrant.
**Grading:**

Grading is pass/fail. Passing grade is 60% or higher based on the following factors:

- Portfolio 60%
- Participation 20%
- Attendance 20%

If a student misses more than three days of class, he/she will receive no credit for attendance.

**Portfolios:**

Each student registered for credit will turn in a portfolio of writing on the last day of the Festival. Each student will also turn in a self-addressed stamped envelope large enough for the portfolio to be returned by mail.

The portfolio must contain rough drafts of all material written during class time and all material written in response to assignments. It must also contain revisions.

To earn credit for English F495, students are expected to produce writing that is clear, precise and well organized. They will proofread their work and present it in a professional manner. In addition, they will create strong sensory images, they will use sounds and rhythms as part of meaning, and they will deal with mature ideas and insights.

**Prose writers** will turn in two polished essays or stories, or twenty pages of brief prose. There is no required length or format requirement for the essays and stories, because the length and style will vary depending on the piece of writing.

**Poets** will turn in ten pages of polished poems.

Students may write both prose and poetry if they choose.

**Honesty:**

All work presented as the student’s must be written by that student. For a writer, plagiarism is the worst kind of theft. Any student who plagiarizes will not receive credit.

**Disabilities Services:**

Instructor will work with the Office of Disability Services (203 Whitaker Building, 474-7043) to accommodate students with special needs.

**Sample Day’s Schedule**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:00-10:00 AM</td>
<td>Fiction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00-11:00 AM</td>
<td>Poetry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00 AM-12:00 PM</td>
<td>Creative nonfiction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:00-1:30 PM</td>
<td>Lunch Bites</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:30-2:30 PM</td>
<td>Writing activities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:30-4:30 PM</td>
<td>Special topics in writing</td>
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</tbody>
</table>