

Creative Writing

Mrs. VanZegeren

Welcome to Creative Writing. I am a writer & you are a writer. This class is an opportunity to write, hone our skills, share our work, & interact with other writers. This will be a workshop-style class & I am open to your input as to what you want to make of it. Come to class each day with an open mind, ready to write, willing to share your work, & read the work of others.



Website:

mrsvanzegeren.weebly.com

Email:

svanzegeren@westmichiganaviation.org

Instagram:

[@mrs.vanzegeren](https://www.instagram.com/mrs.vanzegeren)

Participation on Instagram is optional; please contact me if you have questions



Expectations



Safety First



Professionalism

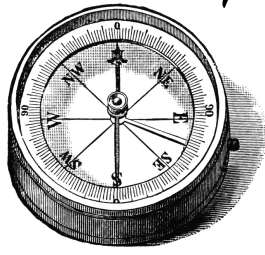


Pursuit of Excellence

By the end of this course, Creative Writing students will have:

- written regularly & compiled all writing in journal.
- shared unedited writing with other writers.
- offered valuable feedback to other writers.
- studied works of various authors representing a diverse array of genres.
- practiced skills required to produce high-quality creative writing.
- submitted a portfolio of collective work from the semester for publication.

Course Map



Unit 1: Writers Write:

If you are writing, you **ARE** a writer. In this introductory unit, we will write everyday, practice sharing our writing, practice giving valuable feedback to one another, & establish personal goals. As we get to know each other, we will consider future units for the course based on what **YOU** would like to accomplish.

Unit 2: Children's Literature:

In this unit, we will study the wide array of wonderful literature written for children. Get ready for a walk down memory lane as we will share favorite books/stories we remember from childhood. After studying the simple elements that make a good plot line, we will write our own children's books.

Unit 3: Poetry & Songwriting:

What is poetry? What makes for good songwriting? What are the literary devices & how can they best be used? We will answer these questions & more as we delve into Mrs. VanZ's favorite genre of writing. Get ready to listen to music (share some of your favorite songs) as we practice the art of telling stories through poems & songs.

Unit 4: Journalism & Blogging:

Anyone can start a blog for **FREE!** This is one of the best ways to start publishing your work. All you need is an account & computer. We will also study journalism & what it takes to organize and publish a periodical.

Other genres of study may include:

- Humor/Satire
- Fairytale/Myths
- Mystery/Crime
- Memoir/Non-fiction
- Film Study
- Novel Mapping
- Science Fiction/Fantasy
- Graphic Novels



Handshake Agreement

As a member of the WMAA Creative Writing community, I agree to:

- write to the best of my ability daily.
- willingly share my writing with others, receive feedback, & apply feedback to make improvements.
- provide valuable, meaningful feedback to other writers.
- try new things & experiment with my writing.
- encourage the other writers in our community.

Grades



Students will earn a final grade each semester based on mastery of the course learning outcomes. The cumulative semester course work, assessments, and projects will comprise 80% of the final semester grade. A cumulative semester exam will comprise 20% of the final semester grade. The

final semester grade will be used in determining a student's grade point average (GPA).

West Michigan Aviation Academy Grading Scale

Letter Grade	Percentage	Grade Point
A	95-100%	4.0
A-	90-94%	3.7
B+	87-89%	3.3
B	83-86%	3.0
B-	80-82%	2.7
C+	77-79%	2.3
C	73-76%	2.0
C-	70-72%	1.7
F	0-69%	0.0
INC	Incomplete Coursework	N/A

A note on missing work: If coursework is not turned in on time, a zero will be recorded in the grade book until the work is submitted, at which time a score no greater than 80% will be possible. This zero will be accompanied in the grade book with a "missing" marker so that the reason for the zero is evident. If the allowable time period to make up the work has passed, the zero will become a permanent grade.

Character Grades

Additionally, students will be evaluated on their character choices for each course. The character evaluation will reflect student mastery of WMAA's critical character expectations: be respectful, be responsible, and do your personal best.

- 3- Exceeding Expectations
- 2- Meeting Expectations
- 1- Not Meeting Expectations



Powerschool

Academic and character grades can be checked at anytime through Powerschool:

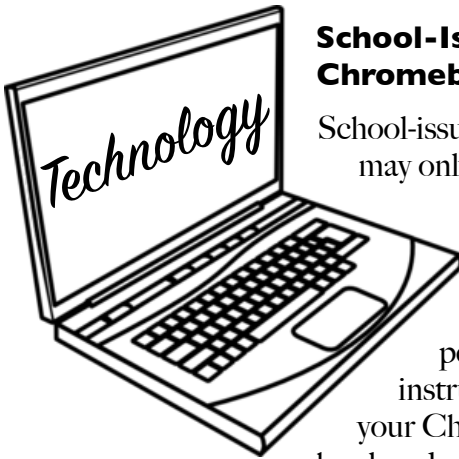
<http://ps.westmichiganaviation.org/public/>

Attendance and Tardy Policy

It's simple...



In the case of an excused absence, communicate with Mrs. VanZegeren ahead of time, if possible. Check the Week in Preview and remember, you are **always** responsible for the material you've missed.



School-Issued Chromebooks:

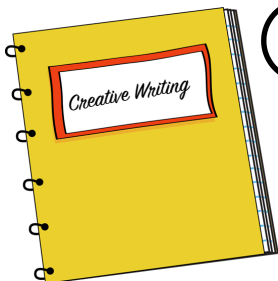
School-issued Chromebooks may only be out and in use during approved class times. If Mrs. VanZegeren has not given permission or instructed you to get out your Chromebook, it must be closed and put away. Mrs.

VanZegeren reserves the right to confiscate school-issued Chromebooks that are being misused. The first offense will result in the Chromebook being taken away until the end of the class period. Should further offenses arise, you will pick up your Chromebook at the end of the day from Mr. Fisher.

Personal Technology:

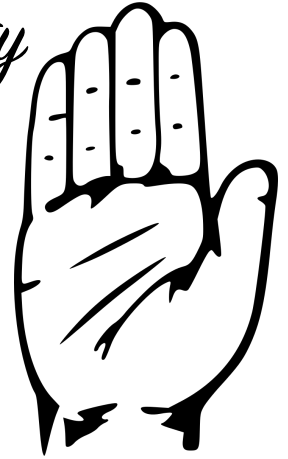
Personal technology is not allowed in Mrs. VanZegeren's classroom at any time. Personal technology includes, but is not limited to, cellphones, headphones, earbuds, and personal tablets or computers. All personal technology must be stowed away and out of sight at the start of each class period. The first offense will result in the technology being taken away until the end of the class period. Should further offenses arise, you will pick up your technology at the end of the day from Mr. Fisher.

Make Mrs. VanZegeren Happy!



Academic Integrity

Citizens of a free and democratic nation must strive to live their lives with honesty and integrity. Authors have worked hard for the material they create. All should be your own and when necessary, sources should be cited. Students involved in cheating or plagiarism will redo the assignment, and other appropriate actions will be determined at the time of the offense.



Mrs. Mutner liked to go over a few of her rules on the first day of school.

