

## Paper 1 (Alternate): Fiction

English W131

Instructor: Ryan P. Shepherd

- **Assignment:**
  - Concentrate on a single event or closely related series of events in the life of a character or small set of characters.
  - Use concrete language to expand out and explore the significance of this event to the character(s) of the story.
  - Attempt to involve your reader with the use of sensory information (sights, sounds, smells), detail, and innovative or interesting narration.
  - Attempt to create interesting and/or unique characters (no stereotypes or boring models).
- **Purpose:** To explore writing ability in a more familiar medium, to familiarize students with creative writing, and to allow your group members (and me) to get to know you better. The goal of this paper is to help you become more comfortable with writing college papers in general and to ease you into later assignments.
- **Requirements:**
  - FOUR to SIX typed pages formatted according the guidelines of the syllabus.
  - The audience is people who would care to hear your story, namely fiction readers. Voice, tone, and style may be very relaxed and informal but should be appropriate to the subject matter covered.
  - Minimal outside research may be appropriate but is not required. You may consider basing your story on real life events (those that have happened to you, those close to you, or those distant from you), in which case, you may need to find out more about these events.
- **Grading Criteria:**
  - Concentration on a single main idea
  - Use of relevant sensory data
  - Appropriate use of detail
  - Innovative or interesting narration.
  - Interesting or unique characterization.
  - Creativity in storytelling
  - Keeps reader's attention
  - Draw reader in with appropriate introduction
- **Due Dates:**
  - **January 22:** Draft one due for instructor commentary
  - **February 5:** Draft two due for peer review
  - Final draft due in portfolio