
ART 341 - 2 credits

Creative Writing II

Course Description

You will continue your exploration of the relationship between faith and art, as well as exploring your own personal creativity. You will increase your ability to experience Christ's inspiration and put aside any inhibitions, fears or sin patterns that are blocking the flow of your divine imagination.

Course Texts

The Creative Life by Alice Bass

Walking on Water by Madeleine L'Engle

Course Objectives

- You will explore your own creativity.
- You will recognize any inhibitions, fears or sins that are blocking your imagination and creativity, and turn them over to Christ to deal with as He pleases.
- You will continue to develop your own personal theological understanding of the relationship between the Christian faith and art, and what that understanding means to your creative life.
- You will create an original written work.

Course Requirements

1. Read the entire *The Creative Life* text, and complete all the exercises included in it. One type of exercise calls for you to "Journal." I believe the author means for these exercises to lead you into thoughtful personal reflection on the ideas and questions presented. However, you are encouraged to take this a step further, and use as many of these exercises as lend themselves to it for journaling as presented in the Communion with God course, that is, to quiet yourself in God's presence, ask the question to the Lord directly, focus your eyes on Jesus, and write

the spontaneous thoughts and impressions that you receive, believing that it is the Lord speaking to you.

Do not write your answers to the exercises in your text. They should be completed on separate paper and filed in the appropriate section of this Student Notebook. You may want to complete them on computer so they can be submitted to your instructor as an attached e-mail file.

There are eight chapters in this text, which you may consider as eight lessons.

2. Completely read *Walking on Water* and write a five page paper. This paper is to include: a) a summary of the book; b) any specific quotations from the book that especially spoke to you, and the way in which they did so; c) your personal and prayerful response to the book (What is God saying to you through the book?); and d) any ways in which your life will be affected as a result of hearing for God through this text.
3. Write something. You may choose any type of writing that interests you most—essay, short story, poem, drama, fiction, nonfiction—whatever medium you want to use to express yourself. This is a course-long project, not something to toss off during the last week of the class. Begin immediately thinking and praying about what you want to write. Let the content determine the form. Allow your mind and heart to meditate upon the subject, incubating it, nurturing it, until it is ready to be "birthed." Then reread it, proof it, edit it, and polish it until it is the best expression of your idea that you are able to present.

This will be submitted to your instructor in the final lesson, and will count for one-third of your course grade. If you want or need your instructor's input on this project at any time during the course, feel free to contact him.