

Abbreviated Course Syllabus

OT 310 – EXPLORING CREATIVE OCCUPATIONS Spring 2024 – Section 47712

Class Day: Monday
Class Time: 10:00am-11:50pm
Location: VPD LL101 (TBD)

Instructor: Gabe Cravens, OTD, OTR/L
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COURSE DESCRIPTION

In this course, we will focus on the analysis of life stories, creative works, and creative theory to understand the interrelationship between creative expression, occupation (meaningful activity), and health. By actively participating in personal creative projects, the curriculum is structured to facilitate a thorough comprehension of the interplay between various creative process', day-to-day occupational engagement, and their influence on well-being.

COURSE HIGHLIGHTS!

- Unlock your creative potential!
- Engaging activities in the creative process!
- Hands on creative workshops!
- Guest lecture from creatives in the Los Angeles area!

REQUIRED READING

- May, Rollo (1994). The Courage to Create (available on blackboard)
- Young, James Webb (2009) A Technique for Producing Ideas (available on blackboard)
- Articles/readings are available through the USC library and are posted on Blackboard.

ASSIGNMENTS & GRADE BREAKDOWN

Assignment	% of grade
Reflective Journals (3) <i>About your development of your creative project over the semester</i>	18%
Writing/Vlog Assignments (2) <i>Based on your experinces of your family and identity</i>	17%
Quiz 1 <i>Short 15 question quiz consists of multiple choice and fill in the blank</i>	15%
Quiz 2 <i>Short 15 question quiz consists of multiple choice and fill in the blank</i>	15%
Creative Project (Final) <i>Semester long creative project w/ required check-ins throughout the semester</i>	20%
In-class participation	10%
Creative workshop participation (5)	5%
TOTAL	100%

COURSE SCHEDULE

Week	Day	Topic
1	Mon, 1/8	Course Review & Introduction
2	Mon, 1/15	MLK Holiday – NO CLASS
3	Mon, 1/22	What is creativity? Why does it take courage to create?
4	Mon, 1/29	Finding your creative “flow”
5	Mon, 2/5	Creativity in Education – Clay Workshop
6	Mon 2/12	<i>Why</i> do we create and <i>how</i> do we create? – Techniques for producing ideas
7	Mon, 2/19	President’s Day – NO CLASS
8	Mon, 2/26	The structure of stories and storytelling
9	Mon, 3/4	Quiz #1 Fieldtrip – Artist Date
10	Mon, 3/11	Spring Break – NO CLASS
11	Mon, 3/18	Creating your own life story
12	Mon, 3/25	The Power of Comics – Comicbook Workshop
13	Mon, 4/1	“Visual Politics”: art, healing, creativity and political power. Changing culture through creativity.
14	Mon, 4/8	Creativity as therapy: music therapy, dance therapy and painting therapy – Painting Workshop
15	Mon, 4/15	The Power of Theater – Theater Workshop
16	Mon, 4/22	Quiz #2
Finals week	Fri, 12/8	Final – Sharing personal creative projects!

Note: In order to optimize the learning experiences, the course instructor reserves the right to amend the syllabus as needed throughout the semester.

Please reach out with any questions! Can’t wait to have you in class to witness your creative journey! 😊

Gabe Cravens, OTD, OTR/L

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<https://classes.usc.edu/term-20241/classes/ot/>