

## Abbreviated Course Syllabus

### OT 310 – EXPLORING CREATIVE OCCUPATIONS Fall 2024 – Section 47712

**Class Day:** Monday  
**Class Time:** 10:00am-11:50am  
**Location:** DMC 211

**Instructor:** Gabe Cravens, OTD, OTR/L  
**Email:** [Gabriel.cravens@chan.usc.edu](mailto:Gabriel.cravens@chan.usc.edu)  
**Office:** THH B4

#### **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!**

- Lots of engaging activities!
- Hands on creative workshops!
- Guest lecture from creatives in the Los Angeles area!

#### **REQUIRED READING**

- Schulz, Gabby/Dahl, Ken (2009). Monsters
- May, Rollo (1994). The Courage to Create (available on blackboard)
- Young, James Webb (2009) A Technique for Producing Ideas (available on blackboard)

#### **ASSIGNMENTS & GRADE BREAKDOWN**

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

### **COURSE SCHEDULE**

<b>Week</b>	<b>Day</b>	<b>Topic</b>
1	Mon, 8/26	Course Review & Introduction
2	Mon, 9/2	Labor Day – NO CLASS
3	Mon, 9/9	What is creativity? – The Artist’s Way
4	Mon, 9/16	Creative Courage – The Courage to Create
5	Mon, 9/23	The Flow of Creativity
6	Mon 9/30	Creativity in Education – Clay Workshop
7	Mon, 10/7	President’s Day – NO CLASS
8	Mon, 10/14	Producing ideas and the structure of stories – creating your own lifestory
9	Mon, 10/21	The Life Story as a Narrative Genre
10	Mon, 10/28	The Power of Comics – Comicbook Workshop
11	Mon, 11/4	Cultural Transformations: how ordinary individuals change culture
12	Mon, 11/11	Veteran’s Day – NO CLASS
13	Mon, 11/18	Creativity as therapy – Mask Painting Workshop
14	Mon, 11/25	The Power of Theater – Theater Workshop
15	Mon, 12/15	Music – music workshop
Finals week	TBDF	Final

***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.

Gabe Cravens, OTD, OTR/L

[Gabriel.cravens@chan.usc.edu](mailto:Gabriel.cravens@chan.usc.edu)

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