

## ASFG High School Summer Assignment Summer of 2023

**Course:** Honors English Creative Writing **Teacher:** Emily Alt

**Welcome** to Honors English Creative Writing! *Sin Fronteras*, ASFG's award-winning literary magazine, is now in its third decade, and it is up to us to keep up the tradition of excellence. We will work together through writers' workshops to improve our pieces, and build a critically supportive community that encourages us to make our writing the best it can be. We will be exploring multiple forms and genres—from poetry and micro-fiction to short stories, autobiographies, essays, and plays. We will also learn some of the rudiments of layout and design, and publish our work. Students will be expected to work independently and to commit a substantial amount of time outside of class to the work of becoming better readers and writers.

This summer, I'd like you to push your limits. Good reading begets good writing.

### Part 1: New Lit

Please visit the following online Literary Journals:

THE VOLTA  
<http://thevolta.org/>

*Drunken Boat*  
<https://www.drunkenboat.com/>

Hobart  
<http://www.hobartpulp.com/>

**The Adroit Journal;**  
<https://theadroitjournal.org/issue-thirty-seven/>

Rattle  
[www.rattle.com](http://www.rattle.com)

McSweeney's Internet Tendency  
[www.mcsweeneys.net](http://www.mcsweeneys.net)

Perhaps you're curious about something while you're there? Read it! If that's good for you, then read *more*. Read whatever seems interesting or cool or dangerous or absurd to you: 3, 13, or 30 things... Whatever you desire.

When you read something, send me a link. I would like to read it too:

**REQUIREMENT:**

1. You must send me links to (at least) 10 pieces you have read over the summer, along with a brief (50-100 word) mini-review of each piece.
2. You must also write a more extended critique of one poem and one work of prose (short story, flash/micro fiction, essay...).

### **THE CRITIQUES:**

Write (type, save, and print) a one page critique (approximately 300 words) for both the poetry and the prose piece, In addition to introducing, summarizing, and responding to the piece, each critique must also identify and explain the following: 1) something specific that you liked about the piece; 2) something specific that you didn't like about the piece; 3) a sentence or line that you felt was particularly well written; 4) a sentence or line that you felt could have been better; 5) an effective use of language that helped the writer to achieve his or her purpose in the piece.

### **Due Date, How to Hand In, and Weight of Summer Assignment**

**Important Note:** Fully completing all of the summer assignment is a precondition for acceptance into the course. Any student who fails to complete his or her work on time may be dropped from the class.

- You should have finished reading your New Lit and have written your two critiques before the start of school in August.
- All of your written work must be word-processed and saved.

All of this work will count for 10% of your quarter one grade.