

Course: **TA341D/DN Christ and Creativity**
Credit: 3 semester hours
Semester: Spring, 2022
Cycle: 6: May 10 - July 2
Time: Wednesday, 1:00-4:00
Location: Greenroom
Instructor: Kenneth England
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I. Description

(3 credits, may be taken at any point in the student's coursework)

This course will center on the techniques of Jesus in his role as Creator and Master Storyteller, explore the inherent creativity in every life, and examine the role Christ plays in endowing his creation with unique and individualized gifts. Particular emphasis will be placed on the role of the arts. The course will (1) develop a scriptural foundation for the gift of creativity, (2) examine creativity in the arts by familiarizing the student with authors, artists, and different art forms, (3) lead the student to realize the potential of his own God-given creative gifts, and (4) develop Christians who will be able to lead lives of integrity and creative passion in the midst of an increasingly passionless, conformist, and egocentric culture. (This course may be taken as a Fine Arts or General Education elective.)

II. Goals

This course is designed to:

1. Develop a scriptural foundation for the gift of creativity
2. Find the story of God in metaphors created in literature and the arts
3. Develop strategies that will help the student lead a creative, fulfilling life and lead them into the potential of his/her own God-given creative gifts in any career field or calling
4. Develop Christians who will be able to lead lives of integrity and creative passion

III. Objectives

The student will be able to:

1. Research and write an articulate statement on the scriptural foundation for the gift of creativity

Our Mission: "...to prepare Christians to live and serve in the church and in the world according to the Biblical worldview."

- A. Program objectives: 2, 4, 5
- B. Assignments: Creativity Research Paper
- 2. Analyze and implement class concepts through reading and discussion of the assigned texts
 - A. Program objectives: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
 - B. Assignments:
 - a. All reading assignments
 - b. Quizzes
 - c. The A Letter
- 3. Demonstrate their understanding of their own God-given creativity through a final creative project shared with the class.
 - A. Program objectives: 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7
 - B. Assignments: Final Creative Project

IV. Requirements

- A. Written research paper on the concept of creativity in the Bible
- B. Thorough reading of assigned texts
- C. Presentation of creative project
- D. Attendance at scheduled theatre performance

V. Methods

- A. Exposure to artistic work and creative thinkers
- B. class discussion of assigned texts and creative works
- C. quizzes on reading material
- D. out-of-class research
- E. out-of-class preparation of creative project

VI. Grading

- Written research assignment on scriptural basis for creativity 25%
- Class discussion and participation 25%
- Quizzes 30%
- Final creative project 20%
- Grading scale
 - A 100-93
 - A- 92-90

 - B+ 89-87
 - B 86-83
 - B- 82-80

 - C+ 79-77
 - C 76-73
 - C- 72-70

- D+ 69-67
- D 66-63
- D- 62-60

- F 59 and below.

VII. Materials

1. *The Bible* is a required textbook in every course at Calvary University. To facilitate academic level study, students are required to use for assignments and research an English translation or version of the Bible based on formal equivalence (*meaning that the translation is generally word-for-word from the original languages*), including any of the following: New American Standard (NASB, English Standard Version (ESV), New King James (NKJV), or King James (KJV). Other translations and versions based on dynamic equivalence (*paraphrases, and thought-for-thought translations like NLT and NIV*) may be used as supplemental sources. Please ask the professor if you have questions about a particular translation or version.
2. ***Art for God's Sake: a Call to Recover the Arts*** by Philip Graham Ryken
 - **Publisher:** P&R Books (2006)
 - **ISBN-13:** 978-1-59638-007-3
 - **Price:** \$1.20-\$6.35
3. ***The Art of Possibility*** by Benjamin and Rosamund Stone Zander
 - **Publisher:** Harvard Business School Press (January 1, 2000)
 - **ISBN-10:** 0142001104
 - **ISBN-13:** 978-0142001103
 - **Price:** \$.01-\$11.77
4. ***Epic*** by John Eldredge
 - **Publisher:** Thomas Nelson (March 13, 2007)
 - **ISBN-10:** 0785288791
 - **ISBN-13:** 978-0785288794
 - **Price:** \$3.76 (hardback), \$2.99 (paperback)
5. ***Scribbling in the Sand*** by Michael Card
 - **Publisher:** InterVarsity Press (July 2002)
 - **ISBN-13:** 978-0830832545
 - **Price:** \$6.66-\$11.33
6. ***War of Art*** by Stephen Pressfield – instructor provided handout

* Please note that some of the materials assigned for class contain occasionally inappropriate language. Although this language is not pervasive, it is not condoned in class, nor do I approve of it; however, the ideas presented in these materials are so powerful as to warrant a sifting of their contents to separate the wheat from the chaff. There is a constant tension for the believer artist in regard to how best to honor God, how best to be culturally relevant, how best to offer hope where the world offers despair. This tension is, however, inherent for any believer, but particularly so for the artist. If any of you think this material could be potentially offensive, please contact me ahead of class.

Class Schedule

Week	Assignment	Topic
One:	<p>Watch Ken Robinson TED talk (in class, 20 min.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read before class and be prepared to discuss in class today foreword and ch. 1-8 of <i>Scribbling in the Sand</i> • Listen to and discuss “Prison Theatre” CD 	<p>Go over administrivia, syllabus</p> <p>The nature and freedom of creativity: Biblical foundation Isaiah 61:1 <i>The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me to bring good news to the afflicted; He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to captives, and freedom to prisoners.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Central premise of this class: God made all humans, Christian and non-Christian, with a creative nature. • Discuss research paper assignment • Discuss final creative project • Talk about field trip to see a live theatre production • The creative process as a road to Christ, the hunger for beauty • The call to create, singing a new song, recapturing the imagination • New song to Christ, the character of creativity, lifestyle of listening
Two:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read before class and be prepared to discuss in class today ch. 9-11 plus appendix.of <i>Scribbling in the Sand</i> • Watch film clips from <i>Shawshank Redemption</i> • Read before class and be prepared to discuss in class today:<i>Art for God’s Sake</i> • A little bit of Vincent VanGogh! • A little bit of Carrvaggio! • A little bit of <i>So You Think You Can Dance</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quiz #1 and #2 • The call to community, letters to Christian artists, the giving of the self, growing in creativity • The Biblical Basis for Creativity • Beauty Will Save the World

Week	Assignment	Topic
Three:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read before class and be prepared to discuss in class today: <i>Epic</i>, including prologue and epilogue • “How Jason Saved His Family” Read before class and be prepared to discuss in class today: <i>Epic</i> • Watch clip and discuss: <i>Life Is Beautiful</i> • Read before class and be prepared to discuss in class today: <i>An Invitation to Possibility</i>, <i>Launching the Journey</i>, and ch. 1 of <i>Art of Possibility</i> • TED talk: Ben Zander on Music and Passion • Watch <i>The Deep Dive</i> and discuss • Reminder: Paper on creativity due 11/20 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quiz #3, #4, and #5 • Finding the Story of God <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Eternal Love ○ The entrance of evil ○ The battle for the heart ○ The Kingdom restored • <i>Art of Possibility</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ It’s all invented
Four:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CREATIVITY PAPER DUE • Read before class and be prepared to discuss in class today: ch. 2-7 in <i>Art of Possibility</i> • Watch <i>Babe</i> film clips (21 minutes) • Film: Teacher • Listen to end of Mahler’s 9th • Explanation of the A letter 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quiz #6 • <i>Art of Possibility:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Stepping into a universe of Possibility ○ Giving an A ○ Being a Contribution ○ Leading from any chair ○ Rule Number Six ○ The Way Things Are ○
Five:	<p>NO CLASS DUE TO THE TRAGIC DEMISE OF ONE OF FERDINAND’S FEATHERED FRIENDS: the ultimate sacrifice of Rosanna!</p>	
Week	Assignment	Topic
Six:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A LETTER DUE • Read before class and be prepared to discuss in class today: ch.8-12, 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quiz #7, #8, and #9

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> including Coda in <i>Art of Possibility</i> • A recap of what we’ve learned so far! • Film clip from <i>Chariots of Fire</i> • Film clip from <i>Strictly Ballroom</i> • Film clip from <i>Henry V</i> • Film clips from <i>Apollo 13</i> • Film: <i>Butterfly Circus</i> • Film clips from <i>Fambul Tok</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Art of Possibility</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Giving Way to Passion ○ Lighting a Spark ○ Being the Board ○ Creating frameworks for Possibility • Telling the We Story
Seven:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read before class and be prepared to discuss in class today: <i>War of Art</i> handout • Film: <i>Discovery of a Character</i> • “Two houses, both alike in dignity!” • Film clip: <i>Shakespeare in Love</i> • CREATIVE PROJECT PRESENTATIONS 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quiz #10 • Resistance • Resistance and the professional • Resistance and invoking the muse
Eight:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CREATIVE PROJECT PRESENTATIONS 	

Policies

A great story is about someone who wants something so badly they overcome conflict and obstacles to get it! You’re here to get an education, right? There are *so* many obstacles to getting an education - money, time, the draw of relationships, cars that only work when it’s over fifty degrees, coming down with chicken pox, ad infinitum! Just don’t let attendance be the obstacle that gets you!

Theatre and creativity are hands-on activities; your presence in class is important. Theatre classes need you as much as you need them! The trust and dynamic necessary to creating good theatre or a great education doesn’t happen in a vacuum. These courses are hands-on, minds and bodies engaged, full steam ahead!

- ❖ Calvary University has no official attendance policy. Students are responsible to the class instructor for work missed during an absence for any cause. When classes are missed due to official school sponsored events or functions the sponsoring faculty should submit a list of affected students to the Academic Office who will then make the list available to all instructors to verify excused absences.

- ❖ **Class Withdrawal:** in no case is the cessation of class attendance taken as an intent to withdraw from or drop a course. In order to officially withdraw from a class, the student must notify the Registrar's Office. (Please see the Refund Policy in the Finances section of this catalog for information about withdrawing from a class.)
- ❖ **Written Assignments** are due via Canvas by midnight of the date assigned, but preferably by class time. Papers and reading assignments must be completed on time.
- ❖ If you are a traditional student, quizzes must be taken in class and cannot be made up. If an online student, you'll be given one week to take quizzes; they will not be allowed to be made up after the due date.
- ❖ Students with disabilities have the responsibility of informing the Accommodations Support Coordinator (aso@calvary.edu) of any disabling condition that may require support.
- ❖ All class papers must follow the Turabian style according to *A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*, 8th edition and the Calvary Style Guide, 2019 update.
- ❖ *Plagiarism is defined as copying any part of a book or paper without identifying the author. This also includes taking another person's ideas and presenting them as your own.*
- ❖ The Clark Academic Center (learning@calvary.edu) is dedicated to providing free academic assistance for Calvary University students. Student tutors aid with all facets of the writing process, tutor in various subject areas, prepare students for exams and facilitate tests. Please take advantage of this service.