SENIOR EXIT PORTFOLIO INFORMATION PACKET
For English Majors with a Creative Writing Concentration

These guidelines are for students who completed Engl 4310A or Engl 4310B spring 2014 or earlier.

SIGN UP: All students must register for Senior Exit Portfolio assessment online at http://www.wac.gsu.edu/EngDept/signup.php

DUE DATE: Senior Exit Portfolios are due November 15 of the semester you graduate. (If November 15 is a Saturday or Sunday, Senior Exit Portfolios are due the first Monday after November 15.)

Please note that Senior Exit Portfolios will not be accepted after the due date. Since a successful portfolio is a requirement for graduation, students who miss the deadline will not be able to graduate until the following semester.

If you completed Engl 4310A or Engl 4310B after spring 2014, please contact Dr. Heather Russel, Assistant to the Director of Creative Writing (heather@gsu.edu) for Senior Exit Portfolio guidelines.

Make sure that you include your name, address, phone number, and Panther Number on your portfolio’s cover.

Purpose of the Senior Exit Portfolio
The state of Georgia asks departments to assess their majors as part of the graduation requirement. The English department and the Creative Writing Program have chosen the Senior Exit Portfolio for this assessment. The portfolio asks you to reflect upon your coursework and learning and helps you understand what you have learned and why. In addition, the portfolio can be easily adapted for potential employers and graduate school admissions committees: you will walk away from Georgia State with evidence of the good work you have done here.

Assessment of the Senior Exit Portfolio
Senior Exit Portfolios are assessed by two members of the Creative Writing Program faculty. In the event of widely divergent assessments, a third Creative Writing Program faculty member will assess the portfolio. The student should note that one of the criteria upon which the portfolio will be judged is whether the essay and the creative writing are grammatically and syntactically correct. The assessment form that Creative Writing Program faculty members use when assessing your portfolio has been attached to these instructions. You must revise and resubmit your portfolio if it is determined to be insufficient.
Senior Exit Portfolio Contents

1) **Introductory, reflective essay.** The reflective essay should be typed, double-spaced, and 4-7 pages in length. The essay allows you to reflect upon your creative writing by analyzing it with relation to the knowledge you have gained through the classes you have taken in Creative Writing, Literature, and perhaps other fields; by detailing your development and accomplishments as a writer of fiction or poetry; and by attempting to articulate an aesthetic for your work. In your essay, please address the following:

- The forces that have influenced your approach to fiction or poetry, especially during your time at GSU, with specific references to your Creative Writing coursework and to important writers you’ve read in those classes (and perhaps other classes).
- The literary techniques you have learned about from other writers and/or from your instructors, and used in your own writing.
- How learning the terminology of your genre (fiction or poetry) from other writers and/or from your instructors has helped in your understanding of how to read as a writer, and in the creation of your own work.
- Why you selected for inclusion specific works from Engl 3150, Engl 3160/3170, and Engl 4310.
- How you see yourself as a writer, and your goals as a writer.

2) **Poetry or Fiction from Creative Writing classes.** The portfolio should contain the following:

- Clean copies of 3-5 poems or 1 or more works of fiction from Engl 3150A or Engl 3150B (depending on your genre).
- Clean copies of 3-5 poems or 1 or more works of fiction from Engl 3170 or Engl 3160 (depending on your genre).
- Original versions of 3-5 poems or 1 or more works of fiction from Engl 4310A or Engl 4310B (depending on your genre).
- Revised versions of the 3-5 poems or 1 or more works of fiction from Engl 4310A or Engl 4310B included in their original form(s).

For poets, work from Creative Writing classes should total 9-15 pages of unrevised poetry, and 3-5 pages of revised poetry. For fiction writers, work from Creative Writing classes should total 20-50 pages of unrevised fiction, and 10-30 pages of revised fiction. You are not required to include critical or creative work from 3180A or 3180B, but if you feel including such work would help in our assessment, please do.
CREATIVE WRITING SENIOR EXIT PORTFOLIO ASSESSMENT FORM

Name of Student: _____________________________

Semester: ________________________

Genre:  Fiction  Poetry

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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Excellent</th>
<th>Good</th>
<th>Fair</th>
<th>Poor</th>
<th>Inadequate</th>
<th>Can’t determine (explain below)</th>
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<tr>
<td>1)</td>
<td>The portfolio demonstrates the student’s knowledge of literary composition, including aesthetics, vocabulary, grammar, syntax, and a variety of critical and creative techniques.</td>
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<td>2)</td>
<td>The portfolio demonstrates the student’s progress from Introduction to Creative Writing to Senior Seminar, as shown by the included work.</td>
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<td>3)</td>
<td>The portfolio demonstrates authentic and engaging writing.</td>
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<td>4)</td>
<td>Overall Evaluation:</td>
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Note to evaluator: Scores should be placed in one rating only and not in between two ratings. Please mark the score clearly in chosen box. This form was updated September 25, 2014 (JR)

Signature: ___________________