

Course: ENG-413, Creative Non-fiction

Credit Hours: 3

Level: 7th Semester

Course Introduction

Creative Non-fiction, often called an “umbrella term”, is commonly defined as a genre of fact-based writing that uses the techniques of fiction to bring its stories to life. This course aims to expose students to a wide range of genre of creative nonfiction, including ‘Personal Essays’, ‘Lyric Essay’, ‘Memoirs’, ‘Autobiography’, ‘Literary Journalism’ and ‘Flash Nonfiction’. This course therefore covers an array of interpretive tools required to read, comprehend, construe and critique diverse genres of creative non-fiction through weekly assignments that consist of listening, reading, viewing and writing. The readings include a variety of texts written by writers belonging to eclectic origins. By covering a range of genres, this course aims to encourage students to explore the scope of the genre as widely as possible as they develop the capacity to not only interpret pieces of creative non-fiction but also produce original creative non-fiction.

Course Objective

- Procure familiarity with the debates surrounding the history, possibilities, boundaries, and contexts of creative non-fiction as a genre.

CLO No	Course Learning Outcomes	Bloom Taxonomy
CLO-1	Develop a comprehensive understanding of the genre of creative non-fiction and its related forms.	C6 (Create)
CLO-2	Use critical reading skills appropriate to the genre.	C3 (Analyze)

Course Contents

S. No	Weekly Course Distribution
Week 1	“Living to Tell the Tale: The Complicated Ethics of Creative Nonfiction” by Lynn Z. Bloom
Week 2	“Walking” by Henry David Thoreau
Week 3	“Why Do I Fast?” by Wale Soyinka
Week 4	“Mother Tongue” by Amy Tan

Week 5	<i>The Word Pretty</i> by Elisa Gabbert
Week 6	<i>CITIZEN: An American Lyric</i> by Claudia Rankine
Week 7	<i>Meatless Days</i> by Sara Suleri
Week 8	<i>Meatless Days</i> by Sara Suleri
Week 9	Mid Term Exam
Week 10	<i>I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings</i> by Maya Angelou
Week 11	<i>I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings</i> by Maya Angelou
Week 12	“Literary Journalism as Radical Literature: Some Roots of a Revolution” from <i>Who's Afraid of Tom Wolfe?</i>
Week 13	<i>How New Journalism Rewrote the World</i> by Marc Weingarten
Week 14	<i>The New Journalism</i> by Tom Wolfe
Week 15	<i>Twenty Groundbreaking Years of Flash Nonfiction: The Best of Brevity</i> by Zoë Bossiere And Dinty W. Moore
Week 16	Students' Presentations
Week 17	Review Week
Week 18	End Term Exam

Suggested Readings

- *Safe House: Explorations in Creative Nonfiction (Commonwealth Writers, 2) Paperback – May 31, 2016* by Ellah Wakatama Allfrey
- *Creative Nonfiction: Researching and Crafting Stories of Real Life* by Philip Gerard
- *The Art of Creative Nonfiction: Writing and Selling the Literature of Reality* by Lee Gutkind