

JAMESTOWN COMMUNITY COLLEGE
State University of New York

INSTITUTIONAL COURSE SYLLABUS

Course Title: Creative Nonfiction

Course Abbreviation and Number: ENG 2890

Credit Hours: 3

Course Type: Lecture

Course Description: Students will explore creative nonfiction by practicing literary techniques in conjunction with telling true stories. Students will examine various subgenres of creative nonfiction including memoir writing, travel writing, personal essays, lyric essays, and literary journalism.

Eligibility: ENG 1530.

General Education Requirements Met

SUNY
The Arts

Student Learning Outcomes:

Students who demonstrate understanding can:

1. Create a portfolio of original work including a short memoir, a lyric or personal essay, a hybrid or experimental essay, and two pieces of flash creative nonfiction.
 2. Conduct research on the craft of creative nonfiction in the context of their own work.
 3. Understand and demonstrate principles of artistic expression and the creative process inherent therein. [SUNY Gen Ed – Arts]
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Topics Covered:

- Reading Strategies
 - “Reading with and against the grain”
 - Interpretation
 - Context
 - Language
 - Logic
 - Scientific Method of reading
 - Accuracy
 - Relative importance of ideas to each other
 - Internal patterns
 - Relationship between text and other similar ones
 - Reviewing one’s own writing
 - Writing Strategies
 - Stylistic choices
 - Discussion of style choices
 - Writing to represent specific attitudes
 - Commentary and editing of student and professional produced writings
 - Discussion of editing choices
 - Essays responding to specific prompts
 - First draft
 - Revised essays
 - Portfolio
 - Research paper
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Information for Students

- Expectations of Students
 - [Civility Statement](#)
 - [Student Responsibility Statement](#)
 - [Academic Integrity Statement](#)
 - [Accessibility Services](#)

Students who require accommodations to complete the requirements and expectations of this course because of a disability must make their accommodation requests to the Accessibility Services Coordinator.
 - [Get Help: JCC & Community Resources](#)
 - [Emergency Closing Procedures](#)
 - Course grade is determined by the instructor based on a combination of factors, including but not limited to, homework, quizzes, exams, projects, and participation. Final course grade can be translated into a grade point value according to the following:
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|-------|--------|-----|--------|-----|--------|-----|-----|
| A=4.0 | B+=3.5 | B=3 | C+=2.5 | C=2 | D+=1.5 | D=1 | F=0 |
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- Veterans and active duty military personnel with special circumstances (e.g., upcoming deployments, drill requirements, VA appointments) are welcome and encouraged to communicate these to the instructor.
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Effective Date: Fall 2025