

**STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK  
COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY  
CANTON, NEW YORK**



**COURSE OUTLINE**

**ENGLISH 202—CREATIVE NONFICTION**

**Prepared By: Melissa Elliott Lee**

**SCHOOL OF BUSINESS AND LIBERAL ARTS  
ENGLISH AND HUMANITIES DEPARTMENT**

**MAY 2015**

- A. **TITLE:** Creative Nonfiction
- B. **COURSE NUMBER:** ENGL 202
- C. **CREDIT HOURS:** 3
- D. **WRITING INTENSIVE COURSE:** Yes
- E. **COURSE LENGTH:** 15 weeks
- F. **SEMESTER(S) OFFERED:** Both
- G. **HOURS OF LECTURE, LABORATORY, RECITATION, TUTORIAL, ACTIVITY:** 3 lecture hours per week
- H. **CATALOG DESCRIPTION:** This course provides opportunities for students to continue developing and refining skills in writing from the basics of Expository Writing or Oral and Written Expression. Through their study of Creative Non-fiction forms and conventions—memoirs, nature writing, lyrical essays, magazine features, webpage content, digital or textual literacy narratives, etc.—students learn to write essays that are not only persuasive but enjoyable for both reader and writer. Each student designs writing situations according to interests and develops imaginative essays of creative non-fiction.
- I. **PRE-REQUISITES/CO-REQUISITES:**  
 a. Pre-requisite(s): ENGL 101 (Expository Writing) or ENGL 102 (Oral and Written Expression) or equivalent course or permission of instructor  
 b. Co-requisite(s): none

J. **GOALS (STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES):**

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

<b><u>Course Objective</u></b>	<b><u>Institutional SLO</u></b>
<b>a.</b> <i>Analyze</i> published Creative Nonfiction essays to gain an understanding of genre conventions unique to this type of writing;	<b>2. Crit. Thinking</b>
<b>b.</b> <i>Create</i> through the common writing process (writing, revising, editing) essays that <i>demonstrate</i> understanding of the genre conventions of Creative Nonfiction writing;	<b>1. Communication 2. Crit. Thinking</b>
<b>c.</b> <i>Evaluate</i> Creative Nonfiction writings as to their value and worth in terms of common criteria for evaluation, using published writings as guidelines.	<b>2. Crit. Thinking</b>

**K. TEXTS:**

- Gutkind, Lee. *Keep It Real: Everything You Need to Know About Researching and Writing Creative Nonfiction*. New York: Norton, 2008. Print.
- Miller, Brenda & Suzanne Paola. *Tell It Slant: Writing and Shaping Creative Nonfiction*. New York: McGraw-Hill, 2004. Print.
- Williford, Lex & Michael Martone, eds. *The Touchstone Anthology of Contemporary Creative Nonfiction: Work from 1970 to the Present*. New York: Touchstone, 2007. Print.

**REFERENCES:**

- Bullock, Richard and Francine Weinberg. *The Little Seagull Handbook*. New York: W. W. Norton, 2011. Print.

**L. EQUIPMENT: Technology enhanced classroom**

**N. GRADING METHOD: A-F**

**O. MEASUREMENT CRITERIA/METHODS:**

- Quizzes
- Writing projects
- Final exam

**P. DETAILED COURSE OUTLINE: (must use the outline format listed below)**

**I. Introduction to the Writing Process:**

- A. Planning: understanding the genre conventions of Creative Nonfiction; freewriting; brainstorming; group discussions; determining audience
- B. Drafting: outlining vs. “junk” drafts
- C. Techniques: style; theme; the formalities: grammar, punctuation, etc.

**II. Exploring Essay Content:**

- A. The Magazine Feature Essay: arguing and persuading
- B. The Lyric Essay: description and process
- C. The Personal Memoir: critical reflection on life experiences

**III. Revising:**

- A. Self-Evaluation
- B. Peer-Evaluation

**Q. LABORATORY OUTLINE: N/A**