

ENGL 1180Q - S01: Advanced Creative Nonfiction: "Narrating History"

Hr: N: Wednesday, 3-5:30 pm

Spring 2016

Beth Taylor

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Office Hours: Wed: 2-3 pm

or

Anytime via Google Hangout or FaceTime by email appointment

This course will teach the advanced writer the protocols of historical narrative and essay for a general audience. We will use the hardcopy and digital archives of Brown, the Rhode Island Historical Society, and the student's family. Each writer will research primary and secondary sources, use interviews and oral histories, and shape three true stories of the past. Possible forms: Dramatic narrative; Reflective essay; Imagined history. Required: Intensive library work, revisions, and peer editing in workshops.

Text Required: Course Packet:

Allegra: 102 Waterman St (corner with Thayer; 2nd floor); (401) 421-5160

Resources/ Consultants:

RIHS:

<http://www.rihs.org/libraryhome.htm>

Brown Archives: Raymond Butti

<http://dl.lib.brown.edu/gateway/lrg.php?id=632&task=local>

<http://dl.lib.brown.edu/gateway/lrg.php?id=632&task=colls>

RI Archives:

<http://www.provlib.org/online-collections>

<http://www.sec.state.ri.us/Archives/>

<http://www.rilin.state.ri.us/RhodeIslandHistory/>

General How-To:

<http://www.writing.utoronto.ca/advice/specific-types-of-writing/history>

<http://www.localhistory.no/countries/usa.html>

Course Requirements:

You will be required to comment on readings in each class; analyze each for sources and strategy.

All drafts must be completed on time.
Regular attendance and contribution to discussions and revision workshops are required and will count significantly toward a satisfactory final grade.
Conferences are encouraged.
Please note: This is a once-a-week, collaborative workshop. If you miss 2 classes without medical or serious reason, you will earn no credit for the course.

Schedule

Jan 27: Introduction: Stories of Brown, RI, and Family
Looking Back: The Brown Daily Herald
"Chronicles of Brunonia": <http://dl.lib.brown.edu/cob/>

Chronicles of Brunonia

Feb 3: Read: Tuchman, "Practicing History"; "Writing History that Comes Alive," "The Research Time Machine"
*** Meet at John Hay Library***

Feb 10: Read: "The Great Ivy League Nude Posture Photo Scandal," by Ron Rosenbaum
Dunkleman, "Key to a Mystery"
(Discussion Leaders _____)
Due: Draft 1 (3-5 pages): Chronicle of Brunonia

Feb 17: Read: Read: "Praying for Sheetrock"; "Reconstructing the Olney's Lane Riot"
(Discussion Leaders _____)
Due: Draft 2 (5-7 pages): Chronicle of Brunonia

Tues, Feb 23: **DUE by 4 PM** via Email to Cohort: Full Rough Draft (7-9 pages):
Print Out & Annotate in Margins

Feb 24: Due: Draft 3 (7-9 pages)/Readings: Chronicle of Brunonia
Editorial Board Meeting

Tales of Rhode Island

Tues, Mar 1: 3-5: RIHS Orientation,
Mar 2: Find and Pitch a story: <http://www.provlib.org/online-collections>
Read: RIHS Finding Aid in Packet and search online collections: <http://www.rihs.org/libraryhome.htm>

Mar 9: Due: Story Sketch (1-2 pages), Sources: RI
Read: "Schindler's List"; "Hiroshima"
(Discussion Leaders _____)

Mar 16: Draft 1 (3-5 pages), Rhode Island Story
Read: "The Crime of the Century"; "The Rats on the Waterfront"
(Discussion Leaders _____)

March 23: Draft 2 (5-7 pages)
Read: "In the Heart of the Sea"; "American Bloomsbury"
(Discussion Leaders _____)

Mar 30: *** Spring Break ***

Tues, Apr 5: **DUE by 4 PM** via Email to Cohort: Full Rough Draft (7-9 pages):
Print Out & Annotate in Margins
April 6: Draft 3 (7-9 pages)/Readings
Editorial Board Meeting

Family Stories

April 13: Sketch, Family History
Read: Davis, "My Confederate Kinfolk"
(Discussion Leaders _____)
Assign New Cohort

April 20: Draft 1 (3-5 pages)
Read: Philip, "A Family Place"; Dillard, "American Childhood"
(Discussion Leaders _____)

April 27: Draft 2 (5-7 pages)
Read: Wisenberg, "Margot's Diary"; Nicotera, "Cecylia"
(Discussion Leaders _____)

Tues, May 3: **DUE by 4 PM** via Email to Cohort:
Full Rough Draft (7-9 pages): Print & Annotate in Margins
May 4: Draft 3 (7-9 pages)/Readings

May 11: Final E-Portfolio Due