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Spring 2-1-2022

ENST 594.02: Environmental Writing Workshop

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Environmental Writing Workshop

EVST 594 Spring 2022

Mondays 5:30-8:20pm

Latria.Graham@mso.umt.edu

Rankin Hall 104

Office Hours

Meetings are held via Zoom at the hours listed below.

Email me for a Zoom link

Monday: 3:30-5:30pm by Zoom

Tuesday: 1-3pm, by Zoom

Required Craft Books

Getting to the Truth: The Craft and Practice of Creative Nonfiction by Rae Pagliarulo and Donna Talarico

Meander, Spiral, Explode: Design and Pattern in Narrative by Jane Alison

Recommended

Telling True Stories: A Nonfiction Writers' Guide from the Nieman Foundation at Harvard University by Mark Kramer and Wendy Call

Required Literary Texts

A Map to the Door of No Return: Notes to Belonging by Dionne Brand

Survival Math: Notes on an All-American Family by Mitchell S. Jackson

Wisdom of the Last Farmer: Harvesting Legacies from the Land by David Mas Masumoto

Wild Spectacle: Seeking Wonders in a World beyond Humans by Janisse Ray

Excerpts from

The Colors of Nature: Culture, Identity, and the Natural World by Alison Hawthorne Deming and Lauret E. Savoy

The Land Speaks: New Voices at the Intersection of Oral and Environmental History edited by Debbie Lee, Kathryn Newfont

GRADING

Scoring

Students will not receive a letter grade on creative submissions. Grades will be determined by the quality of Peer Responses, and level of participation in class.

Workshop

This is a workshop for writing prose: memoir, personal essay, lyric essay, narrative

journalism, travel stories, and any hybrid thereof. Once the class numbers stabilize, students will be divided into three groups. Each student will submit two pieces during the semester that will be discussed in class. Workshop critiques will focus on five basic elements of craft: voice, character, theme, structure, and plot. We will also hone the skill of providing verbal and written feedback: learning to comment on peers' work with insights that are honest, kind, and constructive. I will show you how to borrow techniques from fiction and poetry to find your voice.

Workshop Group 1 will submit their manuscripts on March 21st and April 11th
Workshop Group 2 will submit their manuscripts on March 28th and April 18th
Workshop Group 3 will submit their manuscripts on April 4th and April 25th

Manuscripts will be submitted in paper form, with one copy for each student and professor. Each will be 5-20 pages, double-spaced, 12-point font, stapled, one-inch margin. Each page should have author's last name and page number. I expect all manuscripts to be free from errors in spelling, punctuation, grammar, and formatting. This will require extensive proofreading and revising. Print your final draft and correct with a pen. Then read the printed version aloud and correct it again. Peer Response Letters must be printed or emailed to the author and uploaded to me. They should be one page, single-spaced, 12-point font. Return the edited manuscript to author with line notes.

Final

Book Declaration: March 21st via email

Project Due: May 9th by 7:30pm Mountain via email

The final is comprised of three parts:

Personal Reflection (2500 words, approximately 5 pages)

This paper talks about your personal reaction to this semester's readings and/or the book you chose for your final project. What surprised you? What frustrated you? Were there sentences or techniques that changed your work?

Craft Reflection (5000 words, approximately 10 pages)

This paper examines the book you've chosen for your final project through one of the lenses of terroir: climate, soil, terrain, or tradition

Personal Project Plan (1000 words, approximately 2 pages)

Now that you've received feedback on your perspective and craft techniques, what project or piece of writing do you plan to continue working on? What is the endgame for that work and what do you need to meet that goal?

IMPORTANT STATEMENTS

Land Acknowledgement

The Séliš-Qlispé Cultural Committee created the following language, "The University of Montana acknowledges that we are in the Aboriginal territories of the Salish and

Kalispel people. Today, we honor the path they have always shown us in caring for this place for the generations to come."

Graham's Land Acknowledgement

We're going to talk a lot about the outdoors, race, liberation, survival, and other topics intrinsically tied to the land. We cannot talk about these things without being mindful of the fact that the places we inhabit are often not our own. As we seek to understand our place in the history of this country, we must recognize that our engagement with the spaces in which we live and recreate are bound up with the people who have lived on this land for generations and consider it sacred.

My home resides on Catawba land, and today I'm coming to you from the Lowcountry of South Carolina, which is ancestral, Yemassee land.

This acknowledgement--of forced removal and displacement is something we should keep in mind throughout our discussions about belonging, ownership, stewardship, and storytelling.

COVID-19

Please direct questions or concerns about vaccines to Curry Health Center. Mask use is required within the classroom. If you feel sick and/or are exhibiting COVID-19 symptoms, please don't come to class and contact the Curry Health Center at (406) 243-4330. If you are required to isolate or quarantine, you will receive support in the class to ensure continued academic progress. Quarantining students should not expect the class to be changed to a hybrid structure, however, and may be assigned short readings to serve the place of classroom activities."

Cultural Leave Policy

UM has a Cultural and Ceremonial Leave Policy: "Cultural or ceremonial leave allows excused absences for cultural, religious, and ceremonial purposes to meet the student's customs and traditions or to participate in related activities. To receive an authorized absence for a cultural, religious, or ceremonial event the student or their advisor (proxy) must submit a formal written request to the instructor. This must include a brief description (with inclusive dates) of the cultural event or ceremony and the importance of the student's attendance or participation. Authorization for the absence is subject to approval by the instructor. Appeals may be made to the Chair, Dean or Provost. The excused absence or leave may not exceed five academic calendar days (not including weekends or holidays). Students remain responsible for completion or make-up of assignments as defined in the syllabus, at the discretion of the instructor."

Disability Equity

The University of Montana assures equal access to instruction through collaboration between students with disabilities, instructors, and the Office for Disability Equity (ODE). If you anticipate or experience barriers based on disability, please contact the ODE at: (406) 243-2243, ode@umontana.edu, or visit www.umt.edu/disability for more information. Retroactive accommodation requests will not be honored, so please, do not

delay. As your instructor, I will work with you and the ODE to implement an effective accommodation, and you are welcome to contact me privately if you wish.

Food & Housing Insecurity

Any student who faces challenges securing food or housing, and believes that this could affect their performance in this course, is urged to contact any or all of the following campus resources:

Food Pantry Program

UM offers a food pantry that students can access for emergency food. The pantry is open on Tuesdays from 12 to 5 PM and Fridays from 10 AM to 5 PM. The pantry is located in UC 119 (in the former ASUM Childcare offices). Pantry staff operate several satellite food cupboards on campus (including one at Missoula College). For more information about this program, email umpantry@mso.umt.edu, visit the UM Food Pantry website or contact the pantry on social media (@pantryUm on twitter, @UMPantry on Facebook, [um_pantry](#) on Instagram).

ASUM Renter Center

The Renter Center has compiled a list of resources (<https://medium.com/griz-renter-blog>) for UM students at risk of homelessness or food insecurity. Students can schedule an appointment with Renter Center staff to discuss their situation and receive information, support, and referrals.

TRiO Student Support Services

TRiO serves UM students who are low-income, first-generation college students or have documented disabilities. TRiO services include a textbook loan program, scholarships and financial aid help, academic advising, coaching, and tutoring.

Students can check their eligibility (www.umt.edu/triosss/apply.php) for TRiO services online. If you are comfortable, please see members of the teaching team. We will do our best to help connect you with additional resources.

Class Schedule:

Note: This is a draft and will be revised as guest confirm their speaking dates.

January 24th

Hour 1 Introduction

Hour 2 Writing

Hour 3 Troubleshooting

January 31st

Hour 1 Writing +Lecture

Hour 2 Craft conversation with Rahawa Haile

Hour 3 Discuss bell hooks +Toni Morrison

February 7th

Hour 1 Writing +Lecture

Hour 2 Craft Conversation with Kim Cross
Hour 3 bell hooks +Toni Morrison continued

February 14th

Hour 1 Writing +Lecture
Hour 2 Book Discussion: A Map to the Door of No Return
Hour 3 TBD

February 21st

NO CLASS

February 28th

Hour 1 Writing +Lecture
Hour 2 Book Discussion: The Wisdom of the Last Farmer
Hour 3 TBD

March 7th

Hour 1 Writing +Lecture
Hour 2 Craft Conversation
Hour 3 TBD

March 14th

Hour 1 Writing +Lecture
Hour 2 Craft Conversation
Hour 3 TBD

March 21st

NO CLASS, DECLARE FINAL BOOK

March 28th

Hour 1 Writing +Lecture
Hour 2 Book Discussion: Survival Math
Hour 3 Workshop

April 4

Hour 1 Writing +Lecture
Hour 2 Craft Conversation
Hour 3 Workshop

April 11

Hour 1 Writing +Lecture
Hour 2 Craft Conversation
Hour 3 Workshop

April 18

Hour 1 Writing +Lecture
Hour 2 Book Discussion: Wild Spectacle

Hour 3 Workshop

April 25

Hour 1 Writing +Lecture

Hour 2 Craft Conversation

Hour 3 Workshop

May 2

Hour 1 Lecture/Troubleshooting

Hour 2 Workshop

Hour 3 Wrap Up

May 9 @ 7:30pm

Final due via email

Relevant Texts:

The Situation and the Story: The Art of Personal Narrative by Vivian Gornick

Belonging: A Culture of Place by bell hooks

Performing Environmentalisms: Expressive Culture and Ecological Change edited by John Holmes McDowell, Katherine Borland, Rebecca Dirksen, and Sue Tuohy

Veer Ecology: A Companion for Environmental Thinking edited by Jeffrey Jerome Cohen and Lowell Duckert

Homesickness: Of Trauma and the Longing for Place in a Changing Environment by Ryan Hediger

Playing Nature: Ecology in Video Games by Alenda Y. Chang

Governing the Wild: Ecotours of Power by Stephanie Rutherford

Herlands: Exploring the Women's Land Movement in the United States by Keridwen N. Luis

Curated Decay: Heritage Beyond Saving by Caitlin DeSilvey

Hungry Listening: Resonant Theory for Indigenous Sound Studies by Dylan Robinson

Settler Memory: The Disavowal of Indigeneity and the Politics of Race in the United States by Kevin Bruyneel

Political Affect: Connecting the Social and the Somatic by John Protevi