

1-2013

## ENST 373.01: Nature Works - Writing About Nature and Environment

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# NATURE WORKS: Writing about Nature & Environment

ENST 373 A, W

Spring 2013

Phil Condon

T/TH 12:40-2pm

Rankin 104 Hrs: M/T/W/TH 2:30-3:30 pm & by appt. Contact: phil.condon@mso.umt.edu & 243.2904

**Books / Readings:** *Tell It Slant*. (TIS) Miller/Paola. 2005.  
*Natural History of Now*. (NHN) 2012.

*Pocket Style Manual (PSM)*. Hacker.  
E-RES at ML for EVST 373: password = works

**Course Purposes & Outcomes:** *Short Version:* Write, read, think, feel, and talk--*more & better & deeper--* about nature & the environment. *Long Version:* To gain practice and confidence in all the processes of writing--observing, researching, inspiring yourself, making notes, drafting, shaping, revising, reading aloud, editing; to identify your own writing tendencies, both strengths and shortcomings, and to make the most of each; to understand how you, and others, read and respond, and to integrate this awareness into your writing.

**Primary Writing:** *Minimum* combined total of 5000 words ( $\pm 300$  wds/pg =  $\pm 17$  pgs) in 3 essays as follows:  
**Essay#1: 750-1500 words due Tues 2/26**      **Essay#2: 1500-3000 words due Tues 3/26**  
**Essay#3: variable length--to make total of all 3 = minimum 5000 words--due Mon 5/13**

Also, a significant revision, after workshop discussion & instructor response, of **either E#1 or E#2--**your choice after consultation--**due Tues 4/30**. We'll discuss at length in class what makes a revision significant.

**Required Format on all 4 major writings (Check these 6 points off each time you turn in an essay):**

- |                    |                                    |                                   |
|--------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1) Double-Spaced   | 2) Double-Sided (for class copies) | 3) 1" Margins l/r/t/b & 12pt font |
| 4) (working) Title | 5) Wordcount included on essay     | 6) Pages Numbered (By Hand OK)    |

**Other Writing:** (handwritten is OK for all of these **except #1**):

- 1—**WW** weekly writings (1 page typed double-spaced—anything from frequent in-class writings (**ICW**), your journaling, your work in progress)
- 2--a writing & reading journal that includes **a)** in class writings, **b)** notes & Q's on assigned outside readings  
**c)** notes and work for your 3 essays, **d)** anything else that can be a resource for your essays;
- 3—at least 1-paragraph responses to all student essays read for class (on the essay or separate--for the writer)
- 4--a field journal (pocket size) of outdoor notes including phenology & natural history observations Jan-May

**Reading:** About 45 student essays for workshops (**read each at least twice, write one-paragraph minimum comments/questions, sign your name on copy**); outside readings in *TIS*, *NHN*, & *ERES* as assigned.

**Other Fun:** Attend at least 4 live readings/events from Wild Mercy Readings, **Tuesdays 7pm 2/12-3/26**, the Anna Lappe Presidential Lecture 8pm Mon 2/4, & other live readings on campus or in town as announced. Write a brief 1-paragraph response to each reading you attend within 1 week. (If you have a class or job conflict with 7pm Tuesdays in Feb & March, *tell me asap what it is*, and we'll look for other arrangements.)

**Writing Grades:** I base these on my best writer's and teacher's judgment, using many overlapping and interdependent criteria such as creativity, clarity, unity, originality, shape, rhythm, sound, technique, voice, intention, sense of audience, care with language, and effort. I don't put letter grades on writings, but I respond comprehensively in writing and in class. **Ask me any time for a tentative, current course grade.**

**Course Grade Determination:** Total of 4 main writings = 2/3 (approx. 1/6 of course grade each\*)  
Attendance, participation, preparation = 1/3 (attendance affects all of these)

\* 3 essays & 1 revision = about 1/6 each, but the different lengths & your overall progress will be considered

TIS = Tell It Slant (book)  
 WW = Weekly Writing  
 WS = Workshop Discussion

NHN = Natural History of Now (book)  
 ICW = In-Class Writing  
 R&R = Read & Respond

PSM = Pocket Style Manual (book)  
 TBA = To Be Announced/Assigned  
 ER = Electronic Reserve / M. Library

Wk#	Dates	Class Work	Reading & Work Due On This Day
1	T 1/29 Th 1/31	Syll, Schedule, Bks / Intros / ICW Discuss Rdgs / ICW / S&S Q's	----- ER: Journaling, Peterson, Jensen / NHN: Scanlan
2	T 2/5 Th 2/7	Discuss TIS & Rdgs / ICW Discuss Rdgs / WW	TIS Intro & Chap 1 / NHN: Raboin & Nelson TIS Chap 3 / ER: Ray & Doerr / <b>WW</b>
3	T 2/12 Th 2/14	Discuss TIS & Rdgs / ICW Discuss TIS & Rdgs / WW	TIS Chap 5 & 7 / NHN: Koshere & Engelfried TIS Chap 9 / ER: Essays & Ryder <b>WW</b>
4	T 2/19 Th 2/21	Discuss TIS & Rdgs / ICW Discuss TIS & Rdgs / WW	TIS Chap 8 / ER: Dark Moon; Taming GH's TIS Ch 10 / NHN: Lanzoni / ER: In&Out <b>WW</b>
5	T 2/26 Th 2/28	PSM Q's; E#1 in pairs / ICW Discuss Rdgs / WW / <i>E#1 Returned</i>	PSM TBA / NHN: Sheridan / ER: Titles <b>E#1 (1 copy)</b> TIS: Chap 14 / NHN: S. Call <b>WW</b>
6	T 3/5 Th 3/7	WS E#1 / ICW WS E#1 / WW	R&R to 3 classmates' essays <b>E#1 copies</b> R&R to 3 classmates' essays <b>WW</b>
7	T 3/12 Th 3/14	WS E#1 / ICW WS E#1 / WW	R&R to 3 classmates' essays R&R to 3 classmates' essays <b>WW</b>
8	T 3/19 Th 3/21	WS E#1 / ICW WS E#1 / WW	R&R to 3 classmates' essays R&R to 3 classmates' essays <b>WW</b>
9	T 3/26 Th 3/28	Discuss Rdgs / ICW Discuss Rdgs / WW / <i>E#2 Returned</i>	Rdgs TBA <b>E#2 (1 copy)</b> Rdgs TBA <b>WW</b>
<b>SPRING BREAK April 1-5: Correct E#2 and prepare copies / Work on E #3 / Work on Revision?</b>			
10	T 4/9 Th 4/11	E#2 WS / ICW E#2 WS / WW	R&R to 3 classmates' essays <b>E#2 copies</b> R&R to 3 essays <b>Bring 2 Journals 1/29-4/10</b>
11	T 4/16 Th 4/18	E#2 WS / ICW E#2 WS / WW	R&R to 3 classmates' essays R&R to 3 classmates' essays <b>WW</b>
12	T 4/23 Th 4/25	E#2 WS / ICW E#2 WS / WW	R&R to 3 classmates' essays R&R to 3 classmates' essays <b>WW</b>
13	T 4/30 Th 5/2	Discuss Rdgs / Crse Evals Rev WS (2 groups)	Rdgs TBA / <b>Revision E #1 <u>or</u> E #2 copies</b> R&R to 3 Revisions
14	T 5/7 Th 5/9	Rev WS (2 groups) Rev WS (2 groups)	R&R to 3 Revisions R&R to 3 Revisions <b>Bring 2 Journals 4/11-5/9</b>
F. Wk	Mon 5/13	<b>E#3 Due, 1 copy: minimum word count of 5000 minus total word count of #1 + #2</b> Sign-up for Tue-Fri (5/14-17) Individual Conferences in place of final exam period	

See [http://events.umt.edu/?calendar\\_id=27&upcoming=upcoming&](http://events.umt.edu/?calendar_id=27&upcoming=upcoming&) for all Registrar Deadline Dates