

University of Montana

## ScholarWorks at University of Montana

---

University of Montana Course Syllabi

Open Educational Resources (OER)

---

Spring 2-1-2017

### CRWR 513.01: Techniques of Modern Nonfiction

Judy Blunt

*University of Montana - Missoula*

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarworks.umt.edu/syllabi>

**Let us know how access to this document benefits you.**

---

#### Recommended Citation

Blunt, Judy, "CRWR 513.01: Techniques of Modern Nonfiction" (2017). *University of Montana Course Syllabi*. 4773.

<https://scholarworks.umt.edu/syllabi/4773>

This Syllabus is brought to you for free and open access by the Open Educational Resources (OER) at ScholarWorks at University of Montana. It has been accepted for inclusion in University of Montana Course Syllabi by an authorized administrator of ScholarWorks at University of Montana. For more information, please contact [scholarworks@mso.umt.edu](mailto:scholarworks@mso.umt.edu).

# CRWR 513— Techniques of Modern Nonfiction

---

## *A Picture and a Thousand Words*

**Spring 2017   Tuesday 3:30-6:20 LA 205   bluntj@mso.umt.edu**  
**Office: LA 112   Hours: M/W 3-4; T 2-3 and by appointment**

### **Required Texts:**

*Refresh, Refresh* by Danica Novgorodoff; short story by Ben Percy

*Blankets* by Craig Thompson

*Arrival* by Shaun Tan

*Killing and Dying* by Adrian Tomine

*Here* by Richard McGuire

*Fun Home* by Alison Bechdel

*Can't we talk about something more PLEASANT?* By Roz Chast

This class will consider and examine the unique aesthetics of sequential art, illustration and film and their roles in creative expression. While these represent distinct disciplines, we will focus on the intersection of text and image as a broader art and literary form: the arrangement of images and words to narrate a story or dramatize an idea.

Our primary texts will be graphic nonfiction books and documentary films. The documentary films are Oscar winners from the past three years. Students will collaborate on introductory presentations, write responses to documentary films for workshop sessions, and must pitch a long form writing or creative project by the third week of class; all forms of written and creative narrative will be considered for the final project.

**Grading:** In final grading, I will consider reading responses, class presentations, participation in class discussion, thoughtful evaluation of peer presentations, and the final project. All of these are important.

**Attendance counts:** our class meets once a week, and we have only 13 meetings. You are allowed one excused absence per semester before absences will impact your grade. You are allowed one tardy per semester [10 minutes late], so plan your time accordingly. If you feel you will have difficulty maintaining this requirement, please meet with me after the first class. Absence is not an excuse for failing to complete an assignment.

Participation in class discussions and the workshop is mandatory and comments should be offered voluntarily. To participate fully, you must come to class prepared. Coming prepared to class means: reading all materials thoroughly, more than once if necessary; researching names and events if they are unfamiliar; writing down discussion questions and observations in preparation for class; backing up your observations about technique, theme and language with textual quotes, both for peers' work and for professional works.

**Disabilities:** In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, I will make every effort to provide appropriate accommodations for students with documented disabilities. Students must register with a Disability Services Coordinator and meet with me to make arrangements.

**Plagiarism:** Enrollment in this university and in this class assumes a commitment to upholding the principles of academic integrity. If you have any confusion about proper citation of published works or questions about documentation of work other than your own, bring these to my attention prior to submitting for workshop or final grade.