

Syllabus

Code: ENGL 227 **Title:** Creative Non-Fiction Workshop

Institute: Humanities **Department:** English

Course Description:

Students will receive an overview of the art and craft of the personal essay and memoir with focus on how to transform personal narrative into literary form and the understanding of how to employ literary fictive techniques such as voice, dialogue, point of view, description, pacing, rate of disclosure, etc. Students will read creative non-fiction essays and critique them with an eye toward developing the skills to employ the techniques used by the authors read and annotated. Students will write, workshop, and revise personal essays, memoirs, and other creative non-fiction writing products and develop a portfolio by the end of the semester.

Prerequisites:

Corequisites:

Prerequisites or Corequisites:

Credits: 3 **Lecture Hours:** 3 **Lab/Studio Hours:**

Required Textbook/Materials:

In Fact: The Best of Creative Non-fiction Lee Gutkind

Forever Fat: Essays by the Godfather Lee Gutkind

Additional Time Requirements:

For information on Brookdale's policy on credit hour requirements and outside class student work refer to [Academic Credit Hour Policy](#).

Attendance at 1 on-campus literary event such as the Brookdale Visiting Writers and Lecturer Series (VWS) with a subsequent writing product.

Course Learning Outcomes:

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Analyze elements of successful personal essays from both classic and contemporary essays.
- Articulate the key components of plot development, pacing, and rate of disclosure, dialogue, and other literary terms.
- Experiment in discussion and in writing with a variety of approaches to characterization
- Examine the relation between truth and veracity and effective storytelling.
- Create original personal essays which demonstrate some of the characteristics of the professional essays read for class.

Syllabus

- Demonstrate creative and critical thinking in written form
(Communication, Critical Thinking, Creative Expression).

Grading Standard:

General Attendance:

This class focuses on workshopping student writing. Attendance is mandatory. After two absences, the student must see the instructor to determine the student's status.

Evaluation and Workload:

- class participation and workshopped writing of minimum of 4 essays/memoirs 40%
- 1 analysis of an assigned essay/memoir 10%
- Attendance at and written response product to one VWS event 10%
- Portfolio of revised materials at semester's end 40%

Numerical grading standards will be specified in the individual instructor's addendum.

Course Content:

- Students will write original personal essays.
- Students will present their work for group critiques.
- Students will respond constructively to other students' writing and listen to others respond to theirs.
- Students will read published essays.
- Students will develop their particular artistic vision and revise and rewrite their creative work
- Students will hone their ability to communicate effectively.

Department Policies:

On Plagiarism and Academic Integrity

A student has an obligation to exhibit honesty and high ethical standards in carrying out academic assignments. Submitting the work of another person in a manner that represents the work as one's own (even if it's only a few lines or an idea or a portion of a paper) constitutes plagiarism and can result in failing the assignment, failing the class, suspension from school, or even expulsion.

College Policies:

As an academic institution, Brookdale facilitates the free exchange of ideas, upholds the virtues of civil discourse, and honors diverse perspectives informed by credible sources. Our College values all students and strives for inclusion and safety regardless of a student's disability, age, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, race, ethnicity, country of origin, immigration status, religious affiliation, political orientation, socioeconomic standing, and veteran status. For additional information, support services, and engagement opportunities, please visit www.brookdalecc.edu/support.

For information regarding:

- ♦ Brookdale's Academic Integrity Code
- ♦ Student Conduct Code
- ♦ Student Grade Appeal Process

Please refer to the [BCC STUDENT HANDBOOK AND BCC CATALOG](#).

Syllabus

ADDITIONAL SUPPORT/LABS:

See the Tutoring Center for information <https://www.brookdalecc.edu/academic-tutoring/>.

Writing Center

At the Writing Center, students can work one-on-one with a writing consultant at any stage of the writing process, from drafting, to revision, to proofreading. Writing Center appointments can help students clarify their main points, incorporate feedback, and address grammar and mechanical issues in the context of their own writing.

The Writing Center is located on the Lincroft campus in Room 118 Larrison Hall (732-224-2941). Hours are posted on the Writing Center website.

Writing consultants are also available at the Higher Education Centers.

See more about the Writing Center here <https://www.brookdalecc.edu/academic-institutes-and-departments/humanities-institute/writing-center/>.

NOTIFICATION FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:

Brookdale Community College offers reasonable accommodations and/or services to persons with disabilities. Students with disabilities who wish to self-identify must contact the Accessibility Services Office at 732-224-2730 (voice) or 732-842-4211 (TTY) to provide appropriate documentation of the disability and request specific accommodations or services. If a student qualifies, reasonable accommodations and/or services, which are appropriate for the college level and are recommended in the documentation, can be approved.

Mental Health:

24/7/365 Resources:

- Monmouth Medical Center Psychiatric Emergency Services at **(732) 923-6999**
- 2nd Floor Youth Helpline – Available to talk with you about any problem, distress, or hardship you are experiencing. Call or text at **888-222-2228** or visit the website at <https://www.2ndfloor.org/>

Faculty Counselors:

- Students who need to make an appointment with a faculty counselor can do so by calling 732-224-1822 (non-emergency line) during business hours. Faculty counselors are licensed mental health professionals who can assist students and refer them to other mental health resources.

DIVERSITY STATEMENT:

Brookdale Community College fosters an environment of inclusion and belonging. We promote a safe and open culture, encourage dialogue respecting diverse perspectives informed by credible sources, and uphold the virtues of civil discourse. We celebrate all identities with the understanding that ultimately, diversity, equity, and inclusion cultivate belonging and make us a stronger Brookdale community.