# WRT 542-04: Writing in the Primary I

# Spring 2024

# Contact and Course Information

**Instructor:** Gina Troisi

**Telephone:** (603)-767-6769

**Email:** troisig@wcsu.edu

**Office Hours:** n/a

**Course Meeting Days/Times:** The student and mentor will communicate primarily through email, but will also communicate via Google Meets at least once a month.

**Course Credit Hours:** 4

## Course Description

With the guidance of a faculty mentor, the student will research, develop, and write a customized project or projects for the course.

## Course Learning Outcomes

At the end of this course, students should be able to:

* The student will concentrate on developing original work of creative nonfiction that is paced appropriately for their content.
* The student will study and learn how to write nonfiction from a controlled, authentic point of view, and open up her personal experience to a universal audience.
* The student will sharpen her prose, and master various elements of craft, such as developing character and settings appropriately withing the context of a piece of creative nonfiction.
* The student will focus on writing meaningful stories in a compact fashion, eliminating extraneous details that do not serve the larger narrative.

## Books/Materials Required

Currently there are no supplemental readings assigned. However, this is subject to change as the professor sees fit.

# Course Expectations

## Attendance and Participation

The student is expected to adhere to all deadlines, attend all meetings with the instructor, and respond to all emails, keeping the communication open and fluid. If the student has an extenuating circumstance that prevents them from meeting a deadline, they are expected to make other arrangements with the instructor. **The student is expected to check WCSU email at least twice per week**.

## Grading

Each submission will receive a detailed response from the instructor. The student will receive a grade at the midterm and final. The grades will be dependent on meeting deadlines, and fulfilling assignment expectations.

### Grading Breakdown

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Reading Responses | 700 Points |
| Zoom Meeting Discussions | 100 Points |
| Total: | 800 Points |

### Letter Grades

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Letter Grade | Range |
| A | 100% to 94% |
| A- | <94% to 90% |
| B+ | <90% to 87% |
| B | <87% to 84% |
| B- | <84% to 80% |
| C+ | <80% to 77% |
| C | <77% to 74% |
| C- | <74% to 70% |
| D+ | <70% to 67% |
| D | <67% to 64% |
| D- | <64% to 61% |
| F | <61% to 0% |

## Assignments

The student will complete the following:

* The student will produce and submit a minimum of 35 pages of creative nonfiction to the instructor via email. The student will also discuss her writing with the instructor. On each of the four deadlines throughout the course, the student will submit 9-10 pages of creative nonfiction. All assignments will be submitted via email, and all due dates are listed below.

### Late Assignments

If the student has an extenuating circumstance that prevents them from meeting a deadline, they are expected to make other arrangements with the instructor.

# Course Policies

## Students with Disabilities

\*AccessAbility Services engages in an interactive process with each student and reviews requests for accommodations on an individualized, case-by-case basis. Depending on the nature of the functional limitations of the student’s documented disability, he/she may be eligible for accommodations. AAS collaborates with students and their faculty to coordinate approved accommodations and services for qualified students with disabilities. If you have a documented disability for which you are or may be requesting an accommodation, you are encouraged to contact AccessAbility Services (AAS) as soon as possible. You may contact AAS by calling (203) 837-8225 (voice), (203) 837-3235 (TTY) or by e-mailing [aas@wcsu.edu](mailto:aas@wcsu.edu). Detailed information regarding the process to request accommodations is available on the AAS website at: [AccessAbility Services](https://www.wcsu.edu/accessability) ([www.wcsu.edu/accessability)](https://www.wcsu.edu/accessability). If your request for accommodation(s) is approved and you request accommodation letters, an accommodation letter will be emailed to faculty members. (Note: Student request for accommodations must be filed each semester and accommodations are not retroactive.)

## Department of Creative and Professional Writing Policy on Academic Honesty

The Department of Creative and Professional Writing follows the University guidelines regarding academic honesty and issues of plagiarism, which are available in the catalog on the University website at <https://www.wcsu.edu/catalogs/undergraduate/academic-services-procedures/>.

In the specific context of writing, we highlight some particular problems with plagiarism. Plagiarism violations include:

* Submitting material that is not one’s own. This includes the use of any artificial intelligence tool for composing any assignment.
* Using material – words and/or ideas – directly from a source without proper citation and attribution.
* Submitting a project written for one course, past or present, as new material in another course without the explicit permission of the instructor.

To emphasize: the use of artificial intelligence or other text generators for any assignment is prohibited in all Writing courses. Using ChatGPT or other similar tools to "get started" is a violation of this policy.

In accordance with University policy, plagiarism on an assignment may be grounds for failing the course and the filing of an Academic Dishonesty Report, which will escalate the situation to higher administrative decisions. Plagiarism and other forms of academic dishonesty are serious academic offenses and will be treated as such in this course. Please familiarize yourself with the university’s policy on plagiarism in your academic catalogue and/or student handbook. Plagiarism is the use of another writer’s words or ideas without acknowledgment of their source. The penalty for plagiarism will be course failure and will be reported to the appropriate Dean(s) and other university officials.

We encourage students to speak with us openly and honestly regarding any questions surrounding academic honesty and plagiarism.

## The Writing Center

Experienced writers know the best way to become an even stronger writer is to *talk with other writers*. The Writing Center is a great place to do that. The Writing Center offers one-to-one consultations on writing for any class, at any stage, from brainstorming and developing outlines to writing strong sentences and documenting sources. For more information, visit the [Writing Center website](https://wcsu.edu/writingcenter) ([wcsu.edu/writingcenter](https://wcsu.edu/writingcenter)).

# Course Schedule

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Due Date** | **Assignment** |
| Friday, February 2nd | **9-10 pages of new creative nonfiction** |
| Friday, March 1st | **9-10 pages of new creative nonfiction** |
| Friday, March 29th | **9-10 pages of new creative nonfiction** |
| Friday, April 26th | **9-10 pages of new creative nonfiction** |

## Syllabus Modifications

Note: This syllabus is subject to modifications by the instructor.

Diversity and Inclusion Statement  
I am committed to creating a course that is inclusive in its design and supports diversity of thoughts, perspectives, and experiences as well as honors your identities (including race, gender, class, sexuality, religion, ability, etc.). To accomplish this:

* If you have a name and/or set of pronouns that differ from those that appear in your official WCSU records, please let me know.
* If you feel like your performance in the class is being impacted by your experiences outside of class, please don’t hesitate to come and talk with me. I want to be a resource for you.
* I welcome feedback that will assist me in improving the usability and experience for all students.

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## Mental Health Support

College students often experience issues that may interfere with their academic success such as stress, difficulty sleeping, managing expectations/responsibilities, life events, relationship challenges and feelings of anxiety, hopelessness, and depression. At any point in the semester, if you encounter difficulty with the course or feel you could be performing at a higher level, please schedule a time to meet with me. Should you be struggling in multiple classes, or unsure what academic resources are available to you, please outreach to your Advisor. For mental health challenges, please reach out to our Counseling Services for counseling and psychiatric services. Counseling Services can be reached at 203-837-8691.   
**24-Hour Emergency Numbers:**

* Suicide Prevention Line:  988
* Crisis Text Line: Text HOME to 741741
* Crisis Text Line for Students of Color: Text STEVE to 741741
* Trevor Lifeline (LGBTQ): 866-488-7386
* Trans Lifeline: 877-565-8860
* National Domestic Violence Hotline: 800-799-7233 or Text Loveis to 22522
* Sexual Assault Hotline: 888-999-5545