

**WRI 3023 Syllabus**

# Syllabus

	Department of Literature, Journalism, Writing Course Number and Name <b>WRI 3023 Creative Nonfiction</b> Number of Units <b>3</b>
Fall 2021	

Meeting days: MW	Instructor title and name: Dr. Dean Nelson
Meeting times: 1:30-2:45	Phone: 619-849-2592
Meeting location:	Email: <a href="mailto:deannelson@pointloma.edu">deannelson@pointloma.edu</a> NOTE: Use my entire name
Final Exam: None	Office location and hours: BAC 111, MWF 8 am to 11 a.m.
Additional info:	Additional info:

**PLNU Mission**

**To Teach ~ To Shape ~ To Send**

Point Loma Nazarene University exists to provide higher education in a vital Christian community where minds are engaged and challenged, character is nurtured, and the Wesleyan heritage, we strive to be a learning community where grace is foundational, truth is pursued, and holiness is a way of life.

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

The course is designed to provide students with the chance to write from their own experience, observation and research, using techniques typically used in creative nonfiction settings, making a point). It's a course in storytelling, with students' lives, experience and observation providing the majority of what the stories are about. 7

**TEXTS:**

Writing Creative Nonfiction (WCN), by Forche and Gerard

To Tell the Truth (TTT), by Connie Griffin

**ACTIVITIES:**

We will read a lot of essays written by others, analyze them, and try to apply the writers' techniques into our own. We will also write a lot, with the semester

**GRADING:**

Getting a good grade in this class will not depend on whether I like the essay or whether I think the subject matter is appropriate or inappropriate. (I can't tell you that) It will depend on whether you do the work, pay attention in class, participate, apply the techniques we learn – in other words, if you meet the deadlines and get the grades they deserve. So will those who are giving it their best. That's all I ask -- give it your best. It's the only way you'll get better.

**ASSIGNMENTS:**

Every Monday a minimum of two pages (typed, double spaced) of your original writing is due. It can be longer (but not a lot!) It can be pages of a work in progress, a first draft, or something you cranked out during lunch before this class, just to fulfill a requirement. I want thoughtful effort put into this assignment. It's the semester it can be a rewrite of something you're trying to refine.

There will also be reading responses due on most days, based on pages from the texts (see Assignment Schedule). These can be 1-2 pages, typed, double spaced. What are the main points of the readings, and What did the readings make you think about? Regarding that second question, I'm mostly interested in how you can apply

Each weekly writing and reading assignment is worth 10 points. The larger projects are worth more.

Each student will turn in a portfolio of his or her writing at the end of the semester, due no later than the final exam. The portfolio will consist of four parts:

- 1). An essay
- 2). A story from your experience where you are the main character
- 3). A story about someone else
- 4). A story in the voice of someone else

### COURSE CREDIT HOUR INFORMATION

In the interest of providing sufficient time to accomplish the stated Course Learning Outcomes, this class meets the PLNU credit hour policy for a 3 unit class. Students will spend a minimum of 37.5 participation hours per credit hour on their coursework. For this course, students will spend an estimated 112.5 total hours more than are provided in the Canvas modules.

### ASSESSMENT AND GRADING

Student grades will be posted in the Canvas grade book no later than midnight on Tuesday of each week beginning in Week Two of this course. It is important that these comments are intended to help students improve their work. Final grades will be posted within one week of the end of the class. Grades will be based on

**Standard Grade Scale Based on Percentages**

A	B	C	D	F
A 93-100	B+ 87-89	C+ 77-79	D+ 67-69	F Less than 59
A- 90-92	B 83-86	C 73-76	D 63-66	
	B- 80-82	C- 70-72	D- 60-62	

### STATE AUTHORIZATION

State authorization is a formal determination by a state that Point Loma Nazarene University is approved to conduct activities regulated by that state. In California, PLNU is not authorized to enroll online (distance education) students. If a student moves to another state after admission to the program and/or enrollment in a course will depend on whether Point Loma Nazarene University is authorized to offer distance education courses in that state. It is the student's responsibility to check the physical location. Refer to the map on [State Authorization](#) to view which states allow online (distance education) outside of California.

### INCOMPLETES AND LATE ASSIGNMENTS

All assignments are to be submitted/turned in by the beginning of the class session when they are due—including assignments posted in Canvas. Incomplete assignments are subject to the same circumstances.

### PLNU COPYRIGHT POLICY

Point Loma Nazarene University, as a non-profit educational institution, is entitled by law to use materials protected by the US Copyright Act for classroom instruction. It is the student's responsibility to ensure that they do not violate the law.

### PLNU ACADEMIC HONESTY POLICY

Students should demonstrate academic honesty by doing original work and by giving appropriate credit to the ideas of others. Academic dishonesty is the use of someone else's work as one's own when in reality they are the results of another person's creativity and effort. A faculty member who believes a situation involving academic dishonesty on an assignment or examination, or, depending on the seriousness of the offense, for the course. Faculty should follow and students may appeal using the procedures for definitions of kinds of academic dishonesty and for further policy information.

### PLNU ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS POLICY

While all students are expected to meet the minimum standards for completion of this course as established by the instructor, students with disabilities may request accommodations. At Point Loma Nazarene University (PLNU), these students are requested to register with the Disability Resource Center (DRC), located in 1849-2486. The DRC's policies and procedures for assisting such students in the development of an appropriate academic adjustment plan (AP) allows PLNU to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act. Section 504 (a) prohibits discrimination against students with special needs and guarantees all qualified students equal access to educational programs. After the student files the required documentation, the DRC, in conjunction with the student, will develop an AP to meet that student's specific learning needs. Faculty who teach courses in which the student is enrolled each semester. The AP must be implemented in all such courses.

If students do not wish to avail themselves of some or all of the elements of their AP in a particular course, it is the responsibility of those students to notify the DRC. Students should speak with their professors during the first two weeks of each semester about the applicability of their AP in that particular course and/or the elements of their AP in that course.

### PLNU ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION POLICY

#### Face-to-Face Format

Regular and punctual attendance at all classes is considered essential to optimum academic achievement. If the student is absent from more than 10 percent of the report which may result in de-enrollment. If the absences exceed 20 percent, the student may be de-enrolled without notice until the university drop date or until the student returns and participation. See [Academic Policies](#) in the Undergraduate Academic Catalog.

#### Hybrid Format

At Point Loma Nazarene University, attendance is required at all scheduled classes. Adult Degree Completion courses are taught in the hybrid format, which some will be online.

Attendance in the face-to-face classes is to be for the entire time of the class. Arriving late or leaving early will be considered a partial absence. A day of substantive note, assignment, discussion, or submission that adds value to the course as determined by the instructor. Three days of attendance are required.

### Face-to-face Portion of the Hybrid course

In blended or hybrid courses, if a student misses one face-to-face class then the faculty member will send an email to the student and the Director of no exceptions to this policy.

If a student misses two face-to-face classes, the faculty member or Vice Provost for Academic Administration (VPAA) will initiate the student's de-enrollment from the course. If the date of de-enrollment is past the last date to withdraw from a class, the student will be assigned a grade of "F" and there will be no refund of tuition for that course.

### Online Portion of the Hybrid Course

If a student misses two online classes (fails to contribute to a discussion board) during the course, then the faculty member will send an email to the student and the Director of Academic Affairs regarding attendance jeopardy. There are no exceptions to this policy.

If a student misses three online classes (fails to contribute to a discussion board by the due date) during the course, then the faculty member or Vice Provost for Academic Administration (VPAA) will initiate the student's de-enrollment from the course without further advanced notice to the student. If the date of de-enrollment is past the last date to withdraw from a class, there will be no refund of tuition for that course.

1 missed F2F class = warning

2 missed F2F classes = de-enrollment

2 missed online classes = warning

3 missed online classes = de-enrollment

### Online Format

Students taking online courses are expected to attend each week of the course. Attendance is defined as participating in an academic activity within the course. (Note: Logging into the course does not qualify as participation and will not be counted as meeting the attendance requirement.)

Students who do not attend at least once in any 3 consecutive days will be issued an attendance warning. Students who do not attend at least once in any 3 consecutive days retroactive to the last date of recorded attendance.

### SPIRITUAL CARE

Please be aware PLNU strives to be a place where you grow as whole persons. To this end, we provide resources for our students to encounter God and grow in faith. If students have questions, a desire to meet with the chaplain or have prayer requests you can contact the [Office of Spiritual Development](#) or the [Lighthouse](#).

### USE OF TECHNOLOGY

In order to be successful in the online environment, you'll need to meet the minimum technology and system requirements; please refer to the [Technology Requirements](#) page.

Problems with technology do not relieve you of the responsibility of participating, turning in your assignments, or completing your classwork.

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Check out my new book from HarperCollins! [Talk To Me: How To Ask Better Questions, Get Better Answers, and Interview Anyone Like a Pro](#)

