

Department	International College of Liberal Arts		
Semester	Fall 2025	Year Offered (Odd/Even/Every Year)	Every Year
Course Number	LANG331		
Course Title	Creative Nonfiction		
Prerequisites	LANG120 The Art of Storytelling OR LANG 220 Rhetorical Analysis and Composition OR LANG/JPNA 240 Contemporary Japanese Literature OR LANG/JPNA 235 Japan: Lost in Adaptation and Representation		
Course Instructor	SUGIYAMA Kazutaka	Year Available (Grade Level)	2
Subject Area	Interdisciplinary Arts: Language Arts	Number of Credits	3
Class Style	Lecture	Language of instruction	English

(NOTE 1) Depending on the class size and the capacity of the facility, we may not be able to accommodate all students who wish to register for the course

Course Description	<p>Prerequisite: LANG 170 OR LANG 220 OR LANG/JPNA 240 OR LANG/JPNA 235</p> <p>For those not familiar with this term, CNF (Creative Nonfiction) encompasses a wide range of genres, including autobiography, biography, travel writing, journal writing, science or history writing, special-interest pieces under the broad umbrella of journalism, the nonfiction short story or novel, and even prose poetry of a certain type. Creative Nonfiction provides an opportunity for students to explore works of creative nonfiction from different genres, such as travel writing, nature writing, food writing, and others. There are three major writing assignments in addition to peer review, revision, and some research.</p> <p>1) Kaleidoscope Yamanashi: a travel writing about Yamanashi  2) Memoir (Final Project)  3) Making Parody (group project).</p> <p>This course aims to enrich students' learning experiences by various types of active learning activities, such as in-class discussion, debate, group work, presentation, and peer review.</p>
Class plan based on course evaluation from previous academic year	* Class plan for this academic year based on the students' course evaluation and feedback in the previous academic year
Course related to the instructor's practical experience (Summary of experience)	None
Learning Goals	As part of the iCLA program, by the end of the course, students will acquire (1) [high oral and written communication skills to be able to both comprehend and transfer knowledge]; (2) [the insight and skill they need to make connections, think critically and explore possibilities.]; (3) [a disposition to work effectively and inclusively in teams].

iCLA Diploma Policy	DP1/DP2/DP3
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## iCLA Diploma Policy

(DP1) To Value Knowledge – Having high oral and written communication skills to be able to both comprehend and transfer knowledge

(DP2) To Be Able to Adapt to a Changing World – Having critical, creative, problem-solving, intercultural skills, global and independent mindset to adopt to a changing world

(DP3) To Believe in Collaboration – Having a disposition to work effectively and inclusively in teams

(DP4) To Act from a Sense of Personal and Social Responsibility – Having good ethical and moral values to make positive impacts in the world

Active Learning Methods	Flipped Classroom/Discussion, Debate/Group Work				
More details/supplemental information on Active Learning Methods	N/A				
Use of ICT	UNIPA				
Contents of class preparation and review	Writing/reading assignments, revision, research	Hours expected to be spent preparing for class (hours per week)	3 hours	Hours expected to be spent on class review (hours per week)	2 hours
Feedback Methods	verbal feedbacks and comments on writing assignments.				

Grading Criteria		
Grading Methods	Grading Weights	Grading Content
Participation (DP3)	15%	See the attached rubric
Miscellaneous writing (DP 1, 2)	15%	See the attached rubric
Parody (DP 1, 2, 3)	20%	See the attached rubric
Travel Writing (DP 1, 2, 3)	20%	See the attached rubric
Final Project (DP 1, 2, 3)	30%	See the attached rubric

Required Textbook(s)	Selected short readings (will be provided)
Other Reading Materials/URL	None
Plagiarism Policy	<p>Plagiarism is one of the most common and serious forms of academic dishonesty, especially in writing courses. In this seminar, plagiarism includes, but is not limited to, the appropriation of material (materials like words, ideas, illustrations, structure) from another source (book, magazine, internet documents, and even writings of a fellow student), and presenting it as if it is your own work. It means that students who fail to give credit for referring to other source materials are also guilty of plagiarism.</p> <p>A student who is found guilty of plagiarism will be given a serious penalty such as an automatic F for an assignment or an entire course depending on the nature of his/her act.</p> <p>AI use: This course policy is designed to promote your learning and intellectual development and to help you reach the course learning outcomes. Reliance on generative AI tools can only prevent you from learning in this course.</p>
Other Additional Notes (Outline crucial policies and info not mentioned above)	<p><b>GRADING BREAKDOWN</b></p> <p>-Participation (15%) Students are expected to not only be in class on time but also actively engage in class activities. Class activities include class discussions, group work, making appropriate comments, and asking questions. Just being in class for every class meeting does not qualify for participation. Also, students may lose participation points when the instructor finds them listening to music, texting, and any other activities that have nothing to do with class materials. The decision is made at the instructor's discretion.</p> <p>-Miscellaneous writing (in-class and take-home, 15%) There will be in-class writing activities as well as short writing assignments (take-home). These assignments are not graded; that is, if you submit them on time, you'll get the full credits. However, if I judge that your piece of writing does not meet the standard of the class, I will ask you to revise and resubmit. Failing to do so will be equivalent to not submitting an assignment.</p> <p>-Travel Writing (Yamanashi Kaleidoscope) (20%) All students are expected to do their research on a specific tourist spot in Yamanashi and write an essay that introduces and attracts the audience. This assignment involves thorough research about a subject and writing in which students are expected to use rhetorical strategies they've learned throughout the semester. Word Counts: around 1,000; Include visual images (required).</p> <p>-Parody (20%) Composing lyrics of one parody song loosely about iCLA.</p> <p>-Final Project (30%) All students are expected to compose a memoir. Your final project needs to reach AT LEAST 4,500 words. It can be a portion of a book project.</p> <p><b>LATE SUBMISSION POLICY</b> Assignments need to be submitted before they are due. Submitting before the next class will result in a one-letter grade reduction. For example, if the due date is Monday, and you submit on Tuesday, you will get a one-letter grade reduction. If you submit on Thursday, that will result in a two-letter grade reduction, and so on.</p> <p><b>ATTENDANCE POLICY</b> 4 absences no penalty, no explanation needed. After this: 5-7 absences, -3 points (out of 15 points) from participation grade: 8-9 absences -6 points: 10 absences -7 points: more than 10 absences - Fail.</p> <p>Being more than 20 minutes late will be considered absent.</p>

(NOTE 2) Class schedule is subject to change

Class Schedule	
Class Number	Content
Class 1	<p>This schedule is still tentative. You can take it as a "model" and get an idea of how much reading you are expected to do per week. Reading assignments may be replaced with something on the list above or even with something not on the list. In addition, minor assignments including writing assignments and revision assignments are not listed as they are highly likely subject to change.</p> <p>Introduction</p>
Class 2	What makes a story?
Class 3	Memoir (1)
Class 4	Parody (1)

Class 5	Memoir (2)
Class 6	On narrative patterns (1)
Class 7	Travel Writing (1)
Class 8	On narrative patterns (2)
Class 9	Travel Writing (2)
Class 10	Story and drama
Class 11	Food Writing (1)
Class 12	Information and representation (1)
Class 13	Parody (2)
Class 14	Information and representation (2)
Class 15	Food Writing (2)
Class 16	On dialogues
Class 17	Midterm peer review (1) *The number of classes to spend on peer review depends on the number of students since we will go over everyone' s draft.
Class 18	Midterm peer review (2)

Class 19	Midterm peer review (3)
Class 20	Midterm peer review (4)
Class 21	Nature Writing (1)
Class 22	Parody (3)
Class 23	Nature Writing (2)
Class 24	Memoir (3)
Class 25	Memoir (4)
Class 26	Memoir (5)
Class 27	Memoir (6)
Class 28	A final touch on major writing assignments
Class 29	A final touch on major writing assignments
Class 30	A final touch on major writing assignments Course Evaluation