ENG 129A // Directed Writing: Creative Nonfiction
M, T, Th, 1:30 pm – 4:00 pm

Instructor Info
Colin Channer
Room TBD
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Course Description
In this lively workshop we'll focus on using literary techniques from fiction, poetry and theater to narrate factual events. Topics will include the personal essay, the memoir, the monologue and literary journalism. We'll also look at nonfiction cinema. Readings will cover aspects of the writing craft as well as selections of great nonfiction by fascinating writers.

Required Texts
— The Art of the Personal Essay (edited by Phillip Lopate)
— The Colossus of New York (Colson Whitehead)

Recommended reading
— Yoga For People Who Can't Be Bothered to Do It by Geoff Dyer
— Anglo-English Attitudes by Geoff Dyer
— Slouching Towards Bethlehem by Joan Didion
— Writing for Story by Jon Franklin
— On the Rez by Ian Frazier

Course Materials
— Loose-leaf paper for in-class writing
— A folder or portfolio in which to keep your work

Course Requirements
— A portfolio of nonfiction writing
— Weekly story ideas (in journal)
— Other assignments in prose and other media
— Productive class participation

Evaluation Breakdown
— Writing & other assignments 50%
— Productive participation (which includes forum postings) 50%