

Creative Nonfiction Presentation

The world of creative nonfiction is deep and wide, and we will not have time to cover all of its facets in class this semester. So, the goal of this presentation is for you to find and explore a corner of the creative nonfiction world that intrigues you, and then explain that corner to the rest of the class.

For this project, you will present on a creative nonfiction topic of your choice: a creative nonfiction genre we are not practicing in class, or a creative nonfiction theory or conversation that would advance our class's understanding of creative nonfiction. Your presentation should be engaging and comprehensible to interested non-experts, i.e. our class. I would suggest using *Reading Autobiography* as a starting point, both in terms of conversations and genres.

Step 1: Proposal (due 1/28)

For this 300-500 word proposal, **outline the main topic of your presentation**. Include information about why you are interested in this topic, how it will be useful for your audience (our class), and a summary of your preliminary research/knowledge (notable scholars, varied viewpoints, writers in this genre, etc.). **Propose 2-3 dates for the presentation**, taking into account the topics on the course calendar and your own schedule. *If you are not sure what topic you wish to focus on, feel free to set an appointment with me before the proposal is due, or you may turn in two separate/complete proposals.*

Step 2: Conference (sometime during Week 4)

Then, once you have turned in your proposal, you will meet with me. Please schedule your conference through the Calendly link I provide to you. At your conference, be prepared to talk through possibilities for your presentation. I must approve your proposal, and so you may need to revise and resubmit your proposal, particularly if you modify your topic due to our conversation. Once you have settled on a topic, we will decide on a date for your presentation.

Step 3: Presentation (scheduled sometime before Spring Break)

Your presentation should focus on a genre or conversation in creative nonfiction. You should reference scholarly sources in your presentation, but you may also use examples of craft from published creative nonfiction, particularly if you are focusing on a genre. You must create and use some sort of visual to supplement your presentation. The presentation should be tailored to your audience, engaging them and connecting the topic to the work our class is doing this semester. This should *not* a scholarly conference presentation, i.e. a reading of a scholarly conference paper. This should be a presentation designed to engage and teach an audience, so structure your presentation accordingly.

REQUIREMENTS

Presentations should be between **15-20 minutes** and designed for an audience of interested non-experts. Use some sort of **visual** (PowerPoint, Google slides, Prezi, or use of the whiteboard) and reference **at least three scholarly sources**.

By the day of your presentation, you will turn in to Blackboard the following: 1) an **outline** of your presentation, 2) a copy of your **visual**, and 3) a **bibliography** that outlines what sources (scholarly and otherwise) you used for the presentation.