

# Flash Nonfiction Syllabus

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**Instructor**  
*Dina Elenbogen*

**Quarter:** Spring 2024  
**Start – end date:** March 19 – April 30  
**Session day/time:** Tuesdays, 10:00 am – 12:30 pm  
**Course Code and Section:** WRIT42404 24S1

**Email** **Course Overview**

*dinaelenbogen@gmail.com* In this workshop, we will explore the craft issues related to flash nonfiction. Writing shorter pieces of 700-1,000 words, will allow you to work on intensity of language, wrapping an idea in a compelling story, and exploring structure, word choice and voice.

**Modality**  
Remote learning

We will discuss essays in our text, as well as additional essays by writers such as Brett Lott, Peggy Shumaker, Barry Jean Borich, Brenda Miller, Carolyn Forché and others.

We will engage in in-class writing prompts to help you generate new material. We will share the results of these exercises with the class in an informal manner. Once or twice during the course, you will turn one of these attempts into a complete draft of a flash essay which will be formally critiqued by your classmates and instructor.

A detailed class schedule will be available before March 19th.

**Required texts:**

Field Guide to Writing Flash Nonfiction Ed. Dinty Moore  
<https://rosemetalpress.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/NonfictionFGexcerpt.pdf>

**Accessing remote courses**

Remote courses are taught through our Canvas platform. Approximately two weeks before your class begins, we will add you to your canvas site using the email address you provided at the time of registration. An invitation will then be sent to that email. Click the “Get Started” button in the email to begin the Canvas login process. For step-by-step instructions, please visit <https://grahamschool.uchicago.edu/academic-programs/online/learning-resources/liberal-arts>. Once you’ve created your Canvas account, you can access any Graham School canvas course for which you are registered at: <https://canvas.uchicago.edu>.

**Accessibility information**

Student Disability Services (SDS) works to provide resources, support and accommodations for all students with disabilities and works to remove physical and attitudinal barriers, which may prevent their full participation in the University community. Students that would like to request accommodations should contact SDS in advance of the first class session at 773.702.6000 or [disabilities@uchicago.edu](mailto:disabilities@uchicago.edu).

**UChicago CARES Statement:**

The University and its faculty are committed to creating a safer and more inclusive learning environment for all students. At the University, all faculty, staff, graduate student instructors, and teaching assistants are considered “Individuals with Reporting Responsibilities” and are required to let the University’s Title IX Coordinator know about any disclosures they receive from students about experiences of sexual misconduct (including sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, stalking, and sexual harassment). This includes disclosures of experiences that happened before their time at the University. This is to ensure that all students who have experienced sexual misconduct receive support, options, and information about their rights and resources. Students are not obligated to respond to this outreach, and this will not generate a report to law enforcement.

For more information, please see [this handout for students](#) as well as the [University’s Policy on Harassment, Discrimination and Sexual Misconduct](#) and [Policy on Title IX Sexual Harassment](#). You can also reach out directly for services and support from the [Office for Sexual Misconduct Prevention and Support](#) by emailing [titleix@uchicago.edu](mailto:titleix@uchicago.edu).

If you, or another student you know, wishes to speak to a confidential resource who does not have this reporting responsibility, please contact the Sexual Assault Dean on Call through the UChicago Safe App or at 773.834-HELP.

Questions? Contact Zoë Eisenman at [zme1@uchicago.edu](mailto:zme1@uchicago.edu).