

Collin College - Continuing Education

COURSE SYLLABUS

COURSE INFORMATION

Course Number: CWRI 9226

Course Title: Memoir Writing I

Course Description: This course gets you started writing your memories or those of your family. Class activities focus on finding the stories that need to be told, figuring out how to start them, and deciding on specific details to include. You will create a unique index of story topics and write a short memoir for each session. Our goal is to make every story you write one you will be proud to share with your family. Each class offers opportunity to share stories and help class members make clarifying revisions.

Suggested Course Prerequisite(s): N/A

Course Resources: Spiral notebook or loose-leaf notebook, pen or pencil, Highlighter.

Student Learning Outcomes:

- Create a decade's timeline.
- Narrow the focus of general memories with specific details.
- Capture the look and feeling of a remembered setting in descriptive images.
- Leave each class session with a story topic and writing plan.
- Write 5 memoirs of life events.

Certification Notes: N/A

Next course recommendation: Memoir Writing II

Refund Policy: Please refer to www.collin.edu/ce/inforegistrar.html for our refund policy. No refunds after the start time of the first class.

Course Sessions: Listed are guidelines to indicate all topics that will be covered during your course. Do not plan your personal calendar based on these sessions. Your instructor will give you a calendar for your class that will indicate specific topics, assignments, and days.

Lesson Plan – by week or session:

Session 1: Begin a timeline of your life, highlighting events to expand
Explain one event to a partner; get feedback
Start first memoir

Session 2: Read memoir to a partner/small group for revision suggestions
Write effective first sentences
Find stories in familiar objects; Memoir #2

- Session 3:** Make writing vivid with metaphors and similes
Find memory treasures for Memoir #3
- Session 4:** Find story in early memories
Write realistic dialogue
Turn memory images into Memoir #4
- Session 5:** Revise to eliminate extraneous
Write sensory description of an important place
Write Memoir #5: A Rite of Passage
- Session 6:** Revisit chronology timeline
Assess progress and set goals for writing memoirs

Method of Evaluation: Unless otherwise stated, course completion is evaluated on the basis of attendance. Students must be in attendance 90% of the class time in order to be considered a successful completer of the course.

Students must be in attendance 90% of each course in a certificate series for successful completion and to earn a certificate as specified.

Students must complete all courses (core and no. of elective courses needed) to complete a certificate series within two years from start date of the first course taken.

Americans with Disabilities Act: Collin College will adhere to all applicable federal, state and local laws, regulations and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations as required to afford equal opportunity. It is the student's responsibility to contact the ACCESS office, SCC-G200 or 972.881.5898 (V/TTD: 972.881.5950) to arrange for appropriate accommodations. See the current Collin Student Handbook for additional information.

<http://www.collin.edu/studentresources/personal/studenthandbook.aspx>