This workshop is an introductory course in the art and craft of writing creative nonfiction. In this course, students will:

1. Read, analyze, and respond to works of creative nonfiction
2. Respond to writing prompts during class
3. Write and revise essays and/or memoir selections
4. Participate in class workshop
5. Attend and respond to Maureen Stanton’s reading and class presentation
6. Submit a final portfolio and reflection

**Required Texts:**
Selections from Maureen Stanton (on WebCT)

**Grades:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Weekly Responses</td>
<td>400</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stanton Response</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Workshop Submission I</td>
<td>100</td>
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<tr>
<td>Workshop Submission II</td>
<td>100</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Portfolio &amp; Reflection</td>
<td>300</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>1000</td>
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**Be Prepared for Class**

To prepare for each class, please do the following:
1. Bring your textbook and journal with you to class
2. Read the assigned material **before** class
3. Respond to the assigned reading in your notebook **before** class

**Weekly Responses**

Please bring your journal to class each day. In addition to preparatory writing for your essays, you will write responses to the readings, which are to be shared with class. Each response is worth around **25 points** and should be comprised of a List of Ten, which means ten of anything about the reading, such as words you needed to look up, items you found interesting or confusing, or phrases you had questions about. ANYTHING GOES. Write page and paragraph numbers so the class can follow along with you during discussion. We will be reading from multiple selections for each class, so please spread your List of Ten evenly across the readings.
Visiting Writer Maureen Stanton
The Lions in Winter emerging writers series at EIU is bringing nonfiction writer Maureen Stanton to the Doudna Fine Arts Center Lecture Hall to give a reading of her work on **Wednesday, January 25th at 4pm.** You are required to attend. Please let me know if you have a conflict with another class and need me to write a note to another professor. Maureen will also give a guest lecture to our class on Thursday, January 26th. Your typed response should be 6-8 pages (or 1,500-2,000 words) long and address the material we discuss in class on 1/24, her reading on 1/25 in Doudna, as well as her guest lecture on 1/26. Your response should not only briefly summarize the readings and lecture, but it should also comment on her work as a writer and how it fits in with the readings from *I & Eye.* Your response will be graded for clarity, detail, and insight.

Workshop Submissions
On the day you are scheduled for workshop, you must bring two (2) copies of the piece you are submitting. Your submission should be 6–8 pages long, or 1,500–2,000 words. You can submit a stand-alone essay or a selection from a larger work-in-progress. For workshop, you will read your work out loud to the class. Please bring three (3) questions you would like the class to consider (questions that will help you develop the piece further) as they listen to your work. Workshop submissions will be graded for clarity, elegance, detail, and risk.

Final Portfolio and Reflection
Your **Final Portfolio** consists of twenty (20) pages (5,000 words) of your best writing from class. **Ten (10) pages** must be material that has been **significantly revised** from at least one previous workshop submission. (Please include the originals with my comments) Again, your writing will be graded for clarity, elegance, detail, and risk, as well as depth and thoughtfulness in your revision. Your **Reflection** consists of a 7–10 page (1,750–2,500 words) response to the course, course materials, to your own writing process, your choices in revising your work for the portfolio, and any other material relevant to your development as a writer and your experience in this class.

Attendance
I do not keep attendance, but rather, give points toward **Weekly Responses** if you attend class and have a written response that you read out loud. If you are not present, if you do not have a response, or if you do not read it out loud, you will not receive points for that day's Response. For **Workshop** days, you will lose all credit for your submission if you are absent the day your work is scheduled to be read. If you are absent on other students' workshop days, you will lose points from your submission. Exceptions will be made only for documented emergencies and documented school team sport activities.

EIU Writer's Workshop
These all-genre workshops offer time for you to receive feedback on your writing outside of the classroom. These are free and open to the public and will take place in Coleman Hall Room 3691 on Tuesdays from 4-5pm.

Extra Credit
There will be a few opportunities for extra credit in this course. If you attend the first two **Lions in Winter** events January 11th and January 19th (see English Department Website), you may write a 500-word response (for each separate event) to receive 10 points extra credit (for each). Please send extra credit responses to me as an email with “Extra Credit” in the subject line within one week of attending. As I find out about other creative writing events on campus, I will let you know.
Academic Honesty
Please note the English Department's statement on plagiarism (that is, the intentional or unintentional use of another writer's intellectual property without proper acknowledgment):
Any teacher who discovers an act of plagiarism – "The appropriation or imitation of the language, ideas, and/or thoughts of another author, and representation of them as one's own original work" (Random House Dictionary of the English Language) – has the right and the responsibility to impose upon the guilty student an appropriate penalty, up to and including immediate assignments, of a grade of F for the assigned essay and a grade of F for the course, and to report the incident to the Judicial Affairs Office.

Students with Documented Disabilities
If you have a documented disability and wish to receive academic accommodation, you must make arrangements through the Office of Disability Services; you should contact the Coordinator of the Office of Disability Services (581-6583) as soon as possible.

Tentative Schedule
Week One
Tuesday, 1/10: Introduction & Syllabus
Thursday, 1/12: I & Eye Introduction, 1–8

Week Two

Week Three
Tuesday, 1/24: Essays by Maureen Stanton (on WebCT)
Wednesday, 1/25: Lions in Winter: Maureen Stanton Reading, Doudna Lecture Hall, 4pm
Thursday, 1/26: Guest Lecture: Maureen Stanton

Week Four
Tuesday, 1/31: DUE: Response to Maureen Stanton; I & Eye Part II: Place: Introduction 81–2, "A Literary Pilgrim Progresses to the Past" 133–6, "Silent Dancing" 83–9, "Westbury Court" 89–92, "Field Trips" 92–5
Thursday, 2/2: I & Eye Part II: from The Situation and the Story 136–9, "Coming Home Again" 95–102, "The Undertaking" 102–8, "Thank You in Arabic" 108–16

Week Five:
Tuesday, 2/7: I & Eye Part II: "Notes from the Road" 140–2, "The Search for Marvin Gardens" 117–24, "Saturday Night, and Sunday Morning" 124–30, "What He Said There" 130–3
Week Six:

Week Seven
Tuesday, 2/21: Workshop
Thursday, 2/23: Workshop

Week Eight
Tuesday, 2/28: Workshop
Thursday, 3/1: No Class (AWP in Chicago)

Week Nine
Tuesday, 3/6: Workshop
Thursday, 3/8 Workshop

Week Ten: SPRING BREAK

Week Eleven

Week Twelve

Week Thirteen
Tuesday, 4/3: I & Eye Part V: “Getting Ready” from Nickel and Dimed 345–9, “No Name Woman” 302–9, “Two Ways to Belong in America” 309–11, “Becoming What We’re Called” 311–13

Week Fourteen
Tuesday, 4/10: Workshop
Thursday, 4/12: Workshop
Week Fifteen
Tuesday, 4/17: Workshop
Thursday, 4/19: Workshop

Week Sixteen
Tuesday, 4/24: Revision Discussion
Thursday, 4/26: Revision Discussion

Final Exam: Monday, 4/30 at noon: DUE: Final Portfolio and Reflection