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Creative Nonfiction Workshop

Free Choice Digital Book Presentation

Core Assignment:

You'll read a creative nonfiction title from the attached list and do a digital presentation on it on one of the two class dates specified below. The digital format can be one of the following: a powerpoint, prezi, digital story, glogster, blog, website or other digital format approved by instructor. Surprise me. Choose a format I haven't thought of yet.

Rationale for the Free Choice Book Assignment:

Of course, we're reading several texts together in this class. But your writing can also be informed by a creative nonfiction work that dovetails more closely with the kind of creative nonfiction *you're* trying to write. Of course, if you want to write creative nonfiction, it's also important for you to read as much of it as possible. Please look over the following list, investigate the choices and select a book that will most help you expand your knowledge of what's being written in the field today as well as what will best shed light on the work you're trying to do.

Rationale for Making the Presentation Digital

We live in a digitally mediated world. This applies to the literary landscape as well. As students, you need to stay abreast of the most current modes of digital presentation, especially as these modes relate to your own work. To that end, you will make your book presentation digitally in a way that best aligns with the book you chose to read. I encourage you to be creative here. Is there a digital mode you've been wanting to learn? Try to think of a way you can use this mode to present your book. I'm open to just about any mode—as long as you clear it with me first and explain your rationale.

Nonfiction Book List

- *The Devil's Highway: A True Story* by Luis Alberto Urrea
- *Basin and Range* by John McPhee
- *The Orchid Thief: A True Story of Beauty and Obsession* by Susan Orlean
- *I Was Told There'd be Cake* by Sloane Crosley
- *Autobiography of a Face* by Lucy Grealy
- *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks* by Rebecca Skloot
- *Just Kids* by Patti Smith
- *The Long Goodbye: A Memoir* by Meghan Rourke
- *Bossypants* by Tina Fey
- *Sex, Drugs and Cocoa Puffs: A Low Culture Manifesto* by Chuck Klosterman
- *You Don't Look Like Anyone I Know* by Heather Sellers
- *The Year of Magical Thinking* by Joan Didion
- *Reality Hunger: A Manifesto* by David Shields
- *In the Garden of Beasts: Love, Terror and An American Family in Hitler's Berlin* Erik Larson
- *The Memory Palace* by Mira Bartok
- *The Lost City of Z* by David Grann
- *The Devil and Sherlock Holmes: Tales of Murder, Madness and Obsession* by David Grann
- *From Paris to the Moon* by Adam Gopnik
- *Through the Children's Gate* by Adam Gopnik
- *Moonwalking with Einstein: The Art and Science of Remembering Everything* by Joshua Foer
- *A Singular Woman: The Untold Story of Barack Obama's Mother* by Janny Scott
- *The Glass Castle* by Jeannette Winterson
- *Friday Night Lights* by Buzz Bissinger
- *Lit* by Mary Karr
- *Boys of My Youth* by Jo Anne Beard
- *Seabiscuit* by Laura Hillenbrand
- *Travel as a Political Act* by Rick Steves
- *The Empathy Exams* by Leslie Jamison
- *Geek Sublime: The Beauty of Code, The Code of Beauty* by Vikram Chandra
- *The Unspeakable* by Meghan Daum
- *Bad Feminist* By Roxane Gay
- *Lean in: Women, Work and the Will to Lead* by Sheryl Sandberg
- *Men We Reaped* by Jessmyn Ward