

**Travel Writing 2219F Section: 001 Email: [mchambe4@uwo.ca](mailto:mchambe4@uwo.ca)**

**Office: Room 1422 University College**

**Instructor: Melanie Chambers, virtual      Office hours: Mondays 10 am – 12; online appointment**

**Course description:** from memoir, to insider advice to cultural observations, travel stories are a snapshot of a place through the eyes of a traveller. Students will communicate their travels --whether writing about their hometowns or exotic locales-

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**Peer editing:** You will notice that every assignment requires a first draft, which will be used for in-class editing purposes. The first due date is when the peer edit draft is due. E. The purpose of this is to mimic the editor and writer relationship that exists in a 'real world' scenario. Editing and rewriting are critical to improving and sculpting a story for publication. As an editor, you will learn to critique and help shape fellow students' work and as a writer, you must get used to adopting and/or rejecting editing comments and concerns. This work will be done in-class; therefore, if you're absent, this will reflect on your participation mark.

**Note:** a class meeting missed in order to write a test, exam, or other form of - ***will*** count as non-attendance, and ***will*** attract penalties as defined above if applicable. Instructors at the University of Western Ontario ***shall not require*** a student to write a make-up test or class times.

order to write such a test, that is ***your*** choice; your absence will not be excused.

### **Medical Accommodation Policy**

#### **Scholastic Offences, including Plagiarism**

The University Senate requires the following statements, and Web site references, to appear on course outlines:

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following Web site:

[http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/scholoff.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholoff.pdf)

Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea, or a passage of text from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is a major academic offence (see Scholastic Offence Policy as above).

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com (<http://www.turnitin.com>).

## Prerequisites

Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

Services provided by the USC <http://westernusc.ca/services/>

Student Development Centre <http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/>

Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to MentalHealth@Western: <http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/> for a complete list of options about how to obtain help

In Writing courses, students covered by this policy who are seeking academic consideration must proceed as follows.

: students seeking academic consideration **on medical or any other grounds** for any missed tests/exams, class attendance/participation components, or late or missed assignments must either initiate a Self-Reported Absence (**for a grade component worth up to 30% of their final grade, but excluding final exams scheduled during the exam period**) or apply in person to the Academic Counselling or Undergraduate office of their home Faculty and provide a Student Medical Certificate (SMC) or other supporting documentation as required in accordance with official Western policy (linked above).

Students seeking academic consideration **must communicate with their instructors no later than 24 hours** after the end of the period covered by either:

- i. A Self-Reported Absence, or
- ii. Academic consideration supported by the Academic Counselling Office.

**Exception:** in Writing Studies courses, a student seeking academic accommodation **on non-medical grounds** for any missed in-class tests/exams, class attendance/participation components, or late or missed assignments **worth less than 10% of a final grade** *may* first consult directly with her or his instructor, who will in his or her discretion elect either to make a decision on the request directly or instruct the student to follow the procedures set out in **Policy**.

**Please note**

[http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=1&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page\\_10](http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=1&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page_10)

**Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to MentalHealth@Western: (<https://www.uwo.ca/health/>) for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.**

**Special Requests: Special Examinations, Incomplete Standing, Aegrotat Standing**  
for more  
detailed information. Briefly, remember that your instructor does not have the discretion to initiate, consider, or grant (or not) such requests; you must go directly to

<p>Week 1 Sept 8-17</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>LECTURE</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>The difference between a traveller and a tourist</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>What makes a good travel idea the angle of your story</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Qualities of a good travel writer (travel journalist)</b></p>
<p>FORUM</p>	<p>1) Introduce yourself (reveal your <b>speciality</b>, if you have one when you travel- what you like to do/see)</p> <p>2) Comment on the readings: what does the information reveal about each place? Finally, what do you notice about the tone and style of each?</p>
<p>READING</p>	<p>Stories online about Cuba, Poland, BC.</p>
<p>Week 2 Sept 20-24</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>LECTURE</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Creating a sense of place in travel writing.</b></p>
<p>FORUM</p>	<p><b>1. READ POOR SENSE OF PLACE</b> - how is this story lacking a sense of place? Provide examples of travelease (define in the Zinnser reading) or other cliches, too!</p> <p><b>2. How does the Peru story reveal sense of place? Choose one example.</b></p>

Week 3 Sept 27 Oct 1	<b>LECTURE</b>  <b>Writing first person your hometown</b>
READING	Online: eight one-page stories.
FORUM	Comment online about style and tone.
Week 4 Oct 4-8	<b>LECTURE</b>  <b>Pre trip research</b>
FORUM	1) <span style="float: right;">example.</span> 2)

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3) Italy and kids

**FORUM**

1)



## FORUM

- 1) What do you want to write about for your feature? What is timely about it why would someone want to read about it now?
- 2) What are the angles (themes) of both Cuban stories? What new things do you learn

