

Dr. Sharon Hileman  
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Office: BAB 104

Office hours: M-F 10:00-12:00 and  
2:00-4:00  
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**Course Description:** This course will investigate different types of storytelling, beginning with the oral tradition and culminating with twenty-first century digital storytelling. We will study theories that explain the power of storytelling, the effects of culture on storytelling, and the structure of stories. Some of the types of stories we will read, listen to, or view include family stories, folktales, legends, narrative fiction, and docudrama.

**Student Learning Outcomes:** Students will be able to

- Identify and articulate the theories that explain why storytelling is such an important and powerful practice.
- Read, write, and retell stories ranging from family history to more global topics.
- Understand how culture affects stories, resulting in stories with different kinds of narrative structure.
- Investigate the use of storytelling as a teaching and learning tool in educational settings
- Create digital stories, employing various forms of media, such as images, sound, graphics, music, narration and video clips.
- Develop an awareness of the use of storytelling in diverse fields, such as business, psychology, science, and communication.

**Assignments and Methods of Evaluation:** Students must do reading assignments by the dates specified on the Assignments page. Assignments will include blog posts, written assignments, digital projects, and a final exam.

Grades will be determined according to these percentages:

Blog posts	150 points
Family History Story	100 points
Folktale Motif Analysis	100 points
Story Telling Assignment	100 points
Story Structure Exercise	100 points
Transmedia Analysis	100 points
Digital Project	250 points
Final Exam	100 points

Point and grade correlation:

A=900-1000
B=800-899
C=700-799
D=600-699

## Course Policies

- Students are expected to check their Sul Ross e-mail and the course announcements page regularly and use the Sul Ross e-mail address when corresponding with the instructor.
- Students are expected to complete assignments by due dates. Late work will be penalized for each day it is late. Online exams must be taken at the times they are scheduled unless there is a documentable emergency or technical difficulty.
- Accessing the course and submitting assignments in a timely fashion are requirements. Students who do not turn in three successive assignments will be eligible to be dropped.
- Students are expected to adhere to all policies pertaining to academic honesty and appropriate student conduct, as described in the student handbook. Procedures for filing a student complaint are also included in the student handbook.
- Students in online courses have equal access to the university's academic support services, library resources, and instructional technology support. For Blackboard assistance, contact Sandy Bogus at 432-837-8523 ([sbogus@sulross.edu](mailto:sbogus@sulross.edu)) or Rusty Klein at 432-837-8595 ([rklein@sulross.edu](mailto:rklein@sulross.edu)).
- Students with disabilities will be accommodated but must first contact Counseling and Accessibility Services ([mschwartz@sulross.edu](mailto:mschwartz@sulross.edu) or 432-837-8691).

**Required Texts:** Required books are listed below; use whatever edition you like:

DeSpain, Plesant. *Thirty-three Multicultural Tales to Tell*. August House, 1993.  
ISBN: 9780874832662

Ohler, Jason. *Digital Storytelling in the Classroom: New Media Pathways to Literacy, Learning, and Creativity*. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. Corwin, 2013. ISBN: 9781452268255

Silko, Leslie Marmon. *Storyteller*. ISBN: 9780143121282

The **Graduate Student Center**, located in **BAB 104**, provides resources and services for all SRSU graduate students. There is a computer lab with desktop computers and a networked printer/copier/scanner; laptop computers which can be checked out; a projector and screen for rehearsing student presentations; and a conference room for group study. Alpine and distance education students can receive writing and thesis assistance by contacting [sabra.laviers@sulross.edu](mailto:sabra.laviers@sulross.edu) or calling 432-837-8247.



