

**Creative Writing Non-Fiction 3322: Independent Study 10:30-11:30 Monday  
Fall 2021**

**Sidney Balman Jr., Writer In Residence**

**P:202.368.4545**

**Email: [sid.balman@sulross.edu](mailto:sid.balman@sulross.edu)**

**Office Hours: M-Th By Appointment**

**1. Instructional Materials**

- Required Reading; provided by professor
  - i. Reading Lolita in Tehran; Azar Nafisi
  - ii. Kandy-Kolored Tangerine-Flake Streamline Baby, selected chapters; Tom Wolfe
  - iii. Eichmann In Jerusalem; Hannah Arendt
  - iv. A Room of One's Own; Virginia Woolf
  - v. Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas

**2. Course Overview**

- This is an upper-level independent study course designed to build skills in long-form journalism and non-fiction creative writing.
- By the end of this course you will understand the craft of reporting and writing long-form journalism and non-fiction.

**3. Course Primary Learning Objectives**

- By the conclusion of this course the student should be proficient in:
  - i. Long-form journalism and non-fiction creative writing.

**4. Student Learning Outcomes**

- The successful student will be able to:
  - i. Research, report and write an article at a level that could be published in print or online
  - ii. Understand the principles of ethical journalism
  - iii. Research and analyze complicated issues

**5. Course Requirements**

- Complete reading assignments by the deadline
- Meet with the professor once a week to discuss readings and writing craft
- Final project: 4-5,000 word article or work of non-fiction creative writing
- Students in this class must abide by appropriate online behavior.

**6. Criteria for Grade Evaluation**

- Each student will be graded on the basis of adherence to the assignment's guidelines in an effective and comprehensive way. Effort, improvement and class participation are the three most important criteria for grading.
- Grading: A=90-100; B=80-89; C=70-79; D=60-69; F=0-59

#### **7. Students with Disabilities:**

- It is Sul Ross State University policy to provide reasonable accommodations to students with disabilities. If you would like to request such accommodation because of a physical, mental or learning disability, please contact the ADA Coordinator for Program Accessibility, who is located in FH 112 or call Mary Schwartze at 432.837.8203. All requests for special accommodations must be related in writing to the professor prior to the second week of classes.

#### **8. Academic Honesty:**

- "The University expects all students to engage in all academic pursuits in a manner that is beyond reproach and to maintain complete honesty and integrity in the academic experiences both in and out of the classroom. The University may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of any form of academic dishonesty, including but not limited to, cheating on an examination or other academic work, plagiarism, collusion and the abuse of resource materials."  
– Excerpt from the Student Handbook

#### **9. SRSU Library Services**

- The Sul Ross Library offers FREE resources and services to the entire SRSU community. Access and borrow books, articles, and more by visiting the library's website, [library.sulross.edu](http://library.sulross.edu). Off-campus access requires your LoboID and password. Check out materials using your photo ID. Librarians are a tremendous resource for your coursework and can be reached in person, by email ([srsulibrary@sulross.edu](mailto:srsulibrary@sulross.edu)), or phone (432-837-8123).

**10.** A copy of this syllabus will be posted on the Department of Fine Arts and Communications' web page and on Blackboard.

#### **Course Calendar/Syllabus**

- Meet with professor every Monday 10:30 AM