I. **Course description**: (3-0) 3 hours credit. Prerequisite: Approval of instructor and Graduate Advisor of Record. Intensive Workshop in Creative Writing. May be repeated for credit when topics vary.

II. **Texts**:
Our main textbook is *Naming the World*. While we will rely on readings found in this text. We will also read a selection of essays and chapters from books outside of the textbook. You will be asked to read some of texts before we get to Spain; others will be found either on BlackBoard or as electronic files that can be downloaded.

III. **Goals and Objectives**:
The main goal of the class is to have the participants engage in serious study and production of creative non-fiction. The objectives grouped according to three main competencies (around written, oral, and in technological skill sets) are as follows:

**Written competencies:**
- A long personal essays (8-10 pages)
- Various short informal personal essays (2-3 pages)

**Oral competencies:** Participants will present:
- Formal oral reading of a short (250 word) piece excerpted from one of the informal essays.
- Brief reactions to peer writings in workshop.
- Focused discussions and group work.

**Technology competencies:**
- All papers must be turned as electronic files, double spaced, using Times New Roman, 12 size font, and be formatted according to MLA Guidelines.
- Use of Black Board for all email correspondence.

IV. **Instructional Activities**:
- **Brief lectures** will introduce themes, topics or general areas of discussion.
- **Readings**: Participants will engage in various readings (books, essays, and articles), visit web sites, and view films and interviews as assigned.
- **Writings** short pieces and longer formal personal essays. The short essays will be written as reactions to class activities; the longer essays can be extended versions of a short writing piece. We will workshop some of these pieces.
- **Field trips**: Participants are expected to participate in a number of field trips including El Prado and the Reina Sofia museums, a performance—either a play or a
dance performance, and the Corpus Christi Celebration in Toledo. They will also take walks in various spaces and locations around Madrid and Toledo.

V. Schedule:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Activities and Assignments</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>June 10</td>
<td>Depart San Antonio</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 11-12</td>
<td>Settle in Toledo at the University</td>
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</tbody>
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| June 13  | **TOPIC:** What is Creative Non-Fiction?  
Writing: --Personal Goals for the course (turn in at the end of class)  
--#1 My Writing |
| June 14  | **TOPIC:** Autobiography  
Reading: Textbook: pp. 1-7; 14-24; 170-180  
Lecture: Creative Non-Fiction:  
Writing: Short Paper #2: Life-Story  
Turn in #1 My Writing |
| June 15  | **TOPIC:** Autobiography  
Reading: Textbook, pp. 25-56  
John Phillip Santos, pp 104-118  
Lecture: Memoir and Autobiography  
#3 Writing: The Photograph: A Childhood Memory  
Turn in Writing #2 - A Life Story |
| 16       | **TOPIC:** Career? Profession? Life's work?  
Visit: lace maker, jewelry maker, baker,  
Reading: Textbook, pp  
Turn in Writing #3: The Photograph: A Childhood Memory |
| 17       | WORKSHOP SELECTED PIECES FROM WRITINGS 1-3 |
| 20       | **TOPIC:** Nature writing  
Activity: Take a Hike!  
# 4 Writing: Writing about Nature - Stop, Look, Listen! |
| 21       | Preparing for the Fiesta de Corpus Christi  
Turn in Writing #4: Writing about Nature |
| 23       | Field Trip: Fiesta de Corpus Christi |
| 25       | **TOPIC:** Places and Spaces |
Reading: Textbook, pp. 205-213; 319-326
Lecture: Significance of Place/Space and Memory
#5 Writing: Writing about a Fiesta

June 27
Trip to Segovia

June 28
TOPIC: Artists and Art as Non-Fiction—Poets and Painters
Lecture: Field Trip to El Greco and other Museums in Toledo
Activity: Field Trip to El Greco and other Museums in Toledo
#6 Writing: A painting/sculpture/performance art
Turn in Writing #5

June 29
TOPIC: Ethnographic writing
WRITING WORKSHOP: Select ONE piece from Writings #1-5 for workshop

June 30
TOPIC: Wrapping Up
Individual Conferences with students to finalize long paper topic/deadlines
Public Reading: Select ONE piece from Writings #1-5 to read in public

July 1
Depart for San Antonio

VI. Other Policies and Class Information
Students with Disabilities:
- Students with disabilities must let the instructor know asap and be registered with the Office of Disability Services. See the most recent Student Handbook for details or call 210-458-4011 (UTSA information) and ask for the current phone number and office location.

Notes on Classroom Etiquette:
- Please silence your cell phones and use laptops ONLY for class purposes.
- Disorderly conduct—including but not limited to disruptive talking or behavior, sleeping, tardiness, engagement in activities not related to class, cheating, maliciously arguing with peers or instructor, and defiance in carrying out instructions related to classroom activities—will be reprimanded, and could result in an appropriate reduction of the participation grade or, in extreme instances, removal from the class.

Note: Department Policy Regarding Student Writing and Behavior in Creative Writing Courses

1) Writing instructors may, at their sole discretion, refuse to workshop or comment upon any student work they deem patently offensive or outside their professional purview. Instructors should make every effort to communicate their standards so students know what is likely to be considered unacceptable. If the instructor
determines that a student’s submission is unacceptable, they should inform the student and give him or her opportunity to submit an alternative work.

2) If an instructor believes a student’s writing or personal manner suggest they are emotionally unstable and may pose a risk to themselves or others, the instructor may insist the student see a professional counselor (through the university counseling center) as a condition for continued participation in the workshop. If the student’s behavior violates the Student Code of Conduct, the instructor may file a referral with Student Judicial Affairs. Faculty may also, at their discretion, report concerns about student behavior to the UTSA police. In all cases, instructors should register their concerns with the Department Chair.

Relevant Web Contacts/Resources:
Counseling Services <http://www.utsa.edu/counsel/index.htm>
Student Judicial Affairs <http://www.utsa.edu/OSJA/index.cfm>
Student Code of Conduct <http://www.utsa.edu/infoguide/appendices/b.cfm>
UTSA Police Department <http://www.utsa.edu/utsapd/>