

NARRATIVE AND CREATIVE WRITING FOR NONFICTION CERTIFICATE

Program Description

With applications in journalism, research, communications, and creative writing, narrative writing blends factual accuracy with engaging storytelling, making complex or personal topics accessible and compelling to a broad audience.

This certificate program explores the various forms and potential uses of the narrative writing style, building skills to present real-life experiences and insights in a way that is both informative and resonant. You will begin by examining the core content and categories of the genre then turn to editing principles to enhance your writing by improving structure, language clarity, and consistency. Creative techniques will be introduced to amplify your message and maximize its impact as you are guided through the process of crafting compelling op-eds and persuasive essays.

You'll also practice transforming personal experiences into engaging, publishable work by identifying the essence of your experiences and choosing the appropriate narrative arc. By mastering these skills, you will be able to not only captivate your audience but also effectively influence opinions, turning personal experiences into impactful content.

For the best experience in this program, it is recommended to take these courses in the order that they appear.

Key Takeaways

- Recognize and use creative techniques in nonfiction writing
- Effectively revise and edit personal work and the work of others
- Develop op-eds that influence readers' opinions
- Turn personal experience into publish-worthy content

What You'll Earn

- Narrative and Creative Writing for Nonfiction Certificate from Cornell's College of Agriculture and Life Sciences
- 40 Professional Development Hours (4 CEUs)

Who Should Enroll

- Creative writers
- Content and copywriters
- Marketers and advertisers
- PR and communication professionals
- Technical writers and science writers
- Academic writers
- Aspiring journalists and feature writers
- Aspiring editors
- Authors working on memoirs and biographies
- Grant writers and fundraising professionals
- Development consultants
- Genealogists and municipal historians

Courses

Code	Title	Hours
eCornell CALS281	Creative Writing Techniques in Nonfiction	0
eCornell CALS282	Editing and Revising for Impact	0
eCornell CALS283	Constructing Influential Op-Eds	0
eCornell CALS284	Developing a Publishable Personal Narrative	0