

PRACTICUM IN PUBLISHING

ENG 3383
CRN 82970
9:00-9:50 MWF
Evans 360

PROF. NICK LANTZ

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Office: Evans 314A

Office Hours: 10-11 MWF, and by appointment

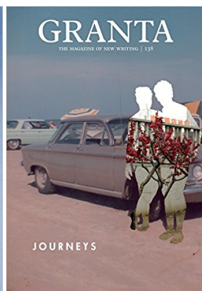
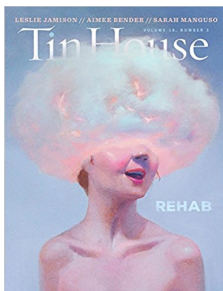
COURSE DESCRIPTION, GOALS, AND OUTCOMES

The contribution of the “little” magazine to the American literary canon cannot be overstated. Famous and influential authors such as William Faulkner, Margaret Atwood, James Baldwin, Charles Bukowski, Ursula K. Le Guin, F. Scott Fitzgerald, Flannery O’Connor, and Alice Walker—to name only a few—were first published in small literary magazines dedicated to cultivating and promoting the best contemporary writing. This course is an introduction to the history, theory, and production of such publications. Together, we will explore the following essential aspects of literary magazines:

- Editing
- Criticism
- Typography
- Design

As a group, our primary project will be the creation of a complete issue of the campus literary magazine, *BEACON: The Sam Houston State Review*. Through our work, you should receive a well-rounded introduction to publishing as it pertains to the literary magazine. You should leave the class with a nuanced knowledge of literary magazines as well as a set of practical writing and design skills that will serve you well in a variety of fields.

REQUIRED TEXTS



The following two literary magazines are required:

Granta: Journeys, no. 138, 2017

Tin House: Rehab, 18(3), 2017

You must obtain copies of these two issues and read them in their entirety before we are scheduled to discuss them in class. Some assignments and class

discussions require familiarity with the contents of these two issues, so your success in this class depends on reading them. If you are not going to get these magazines from the campus bookstore, you should order them online right away (as of this writing, both are available on Amazon for a very reasonable price). **If you order them online, be sure to get the physical copies, not the electronic/Kindle editions.**

Additional materials and readings will be available on Blackboard, as handouts, or on the web. When we discuss a reading in class, you may want to have that reading with you to refer to. With online or electronic readings, you may view them at your computer station in class. I will also distribute loaner copies of other literary magazines, which you will be expected to take reasonable care of and return.

MAJOR ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING

Your final grade is calculated out of 1,000 possible points.

PARTICIPATION AND PREPAREDNESS (300)

- 150 General Participation
- 100 Response Sheets (25 points per response)
- 50 Two Literary Event Write-Ups (additional write-ups for extra credit)

BEACON WORK (225)

- 200 Preparation for and Participation in *Beacon* Submission Discussion
- 25 Annotated Ballots

EXAMS (100)

- 100 ~~Copyediting Exam (take-home)~~ [cancelled]
- 100 Typography & Design Exam (in-class)

LITERARY MAGAZINE PROJECT (325)

- 50 Page/Type Samples
- 50 Cover Samples
- 200 Complete Project
- 25 Introductory Letter

"HARVEY POINTS" (50)

- 50 free points

LITERARY EVENTS

The creative writing program at Sam (along with other campus groups) funds and organizes several literary events each semester. We bring visiting authors, editors, and publishers to campus for the benefit of students like you and for the larger community. The literary publishing we study in this class is one aspect of a broader "literary citizenship": the participation in and contribution to arts and letters. Therefore, we will practice good literary citizenship by attending sponsored literary events. You are required to attend two of the events listed on our Blackboard page. You may attend additional events listed on Blackboard for extra credit. If your life circumstances (job hours, child care, etc.) will truly preclude you from attending any of the campus literary events, speak to me at the beginning of the semester, and we will work out some alternate assignment for you.

BLACKBOARD AND CLASSROOM ETIQUETTE

Assignments, handouts, readings, lecture slides, and other resources will be available on Blackboard. For assignments submitted on Blackboard, I will post feedback/grades through Blackboard as well. You should review my feedback carefully. If you have trouble locating my feedback or using Blackboard, please set up an appointment to see me, and I'll happily show you how to find it.

Cell phones or other devices that may disrupt class must be turned off and put away. You will be using the lab computers, so you are on your honor to stay on task during class. If I find you are updating your Instagram or doing work for another class during our class time, I may mark you absent for the day. Any persistent or extreme disruptions to class will result in ejection from class and substantial grade deductions. These are dire warnings to cover worst-case scenarios. I'm sure that in reality, we will all treat each other with courtesy and respect, but for the record: rude, disruptive, or abusive behavior will not be tolerated.

MAKING USE OF ME

I will always endeavor to make myself available to answer your questions and advise you on your work. Feel free to drop by during my office hours, or set up an appointment with me, especially if there is some aspect of the class you are struggling with. I want you all to succeed in the class and to get a lot out of our semester, so don't hesitate to contact me if you have questions or concerns.

ATTENDANCE

Because so much of the important work in this course occurs in class, your attendance is essential. There are many compelling reasons that lead to absences, but unlike other assignments and work, your presence in class cannot be made up or "turned in" late. Up to 3 absences (i.e., equivalent of a full week of class) will not count against your final grade. Additional absences will lower your final grade by 33 points. **Thus, if you miss more than 6 classes (equivalent of 3 weeks), you will probably not pass the course.** It is your responsibility to keep track of your absences and their effect on your grade. I do not need to see doctor's notes because I do not distinguish between "excused" and "unexcused" absences. But if an ongoing emergency or issue is affecting your attendance, you need to speak to John Yarabeck, the Dean of Students, though you are welcome to explain the situation to me as well.

Many assignments can be turned in online, even if you are not on campus, but if you need to make special arrangements for an extension, it is your responsibility to clear it with me beforehand. Otherwise, late work will generally receive a lower grade. If you miss class, it is your responsibility to find out what you missed from a classmate. If you arrive late, you should check with me after class to make sure you have not been marked absent.

UNIVERSITY COURSE POLICIES

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY

All students are expected to engage in all academic pursuits in a manner that is above reproach. Students are expected to maintain honesty and integrity in the academic experiences both in and out of the classroom. Any student found guilty of dishonesty in any phase of academic work will be subject to disciplinary action. The University and its official representatives 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 which is to be submitted, plagiarism, collusion and the abuse of resource materials. **(To which Prof. Lantz adds: any instance of academic dishonesty may result in an F in the course at my discretion.)**

STUDENT ABSENCES ON RELIGIOUS HOLY DAYS POLICY

Section 51.911(b) of the Texas Education Code requires that an institution of higher education excuse a student from attending classes or other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day, including travel for that purpose. Section 51.911 (a) (2) defines a religious holy day as: “a holy day observed by a religion whose places of worship are exempt from property taxation under Section 11.20...” A student whose absence is excused under this subsection may not be penalized for that absence and shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment from which the student is excused within a reasonable time after the absence.

University policy 861001 provides the procedures to be followed by the student and instructor. A student desiring to absent himself/herself from a scheduled class in order to observe (a) religious holy day(s) shall present to each instructor involved a written statement concerning the religious holy day(s). The instructor will complete a form notifying the student of a reasonable timeframe in which the missed assignments and/or examinations are to be completed.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES POLICY

It is the policy of Sam Houston State University that individuals otherwise qualified shall not be excluded, solely by reason of their disability, from participation in any academic program of the university. Further, they shall not be denied the benefits of these programs nor shall they be subjected to discrimination. Students with disabilities that might affect their academic performance should register with the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities located in the Lee Drain Annex (telephone 936-294-3512, TDD 936-294-3786, and e-mail disability@shsu.edu). They should then make arrangements with their individual instructors so that appropriate strategies can be considered and helpful procedures can be developed to ensure that participation and achievement opportunities are not impaired.

SHSU adheres to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities. If you have a disability that may affect adversely your work in this class, then I encourage you to register with the SHSU Services for Students with Disabilities and to talk with me about how I can best help you. All disclosures of disabilities will be kept strictly confidential.

NOTE: No accommodation can be made until you register with the Services for Students with Disabilities. For a complete listing of the university policy, see:
<http://www.shsu.edu/dept/academic-affairs/documents/aps/students/811006.pdf>

VISITORS IN THE CLASSROOM

Only registered students may attend class. Exceptions can be made on a case-by-case basis by the professor. In all cases, visitors must not present a disruption to the class by their attendance. Students wishing to audit a class must apply to do so through the Registrar's Office.

CALENDAR

Dates and details subject to change.

THE LITERARY MAGAZINE: HISTORY, THEORY, PRACTICE		
3	M (9/4)	Labor Day: No Class
	W (9/6)	Introductions, take 2
	F (9/8)	Readings on Genre (Blackboard)
4	M (9/11)	Readings on Literary Brand (Blackboard)
	W (9/13)	Readings on Diversity & Community (Blackboard)
	F (9/15)	Readings on Substantive Editing (Blackboard) Reading Response 1 due online by 11:59 pm
5	M (9/18)	Readings on Typography and Design
	W (9/20)	Review of Typography and Design concepts, intro to InDesign
	F (9/22)	InDesign exercises in class Reading Response 2 due online by 11:59 pm
6	M (9/25)	Typography and Design Exam (in class)
	W (9/27)	Reading Response 3 due (online before class) Discussion of <i>Granta</i> contents
	F (9/29)	Reading Response 4 due (online before class) Discussion of <i>Tin House</i> contents
7	M (10/2)	Discussion of <i>Tin House</i> and <i>Granta</i> design
	W (10/3)	TBA. BEACON DEADLINE
	F (10/5)	<i>Beacon</i> reading assignments given, overview of process
MAKING BEACON		
8	M (10/9)	Discuss <i>Beacon</i> submissions: small group
	W (10/11)	Discuss <i>Beacon</i> submissions: small group
	F (10/13)	Discuss <i>Beacon</i> submissions: small group
9	M (10/16)	Discuss <i>Beacon</i> submissions: small group
	W (10/18)	Discuss <i>Beacon</i> submissions: full class
	F (10/20)	Discuss <i>Beacon</i> submissions: full class
10	M (10/23)	Discuss <i>Beacon</i> submissions: full class
	W (10/25)	Discuss <i>Beacon</i> submissions: full class
	F (10/27)	TBA

LITERARY MAGAZINE PROJECTS		
11	M (10/30)	InDesign Tutorial/Practice, pick contents for your magazine
	W (11/1)	InDesign Tutorial/Practice, pick contents for your magazine
	F (11/3)	InDesign Tutorial/Practice, pick contents for your magazine Page Samples due online by 11:59 pm
12	M (11/6)	InDesign Tutorial/Practice, assemble/order contents
	W (11/8)	InDesign Tutorial/Practice, find cover art
	F (11/10)	InDesign Tutorial/Practice, find cover art Cover Samples due online by 11:59 pm
13	M (11/13)	Work on Literary Magazine Projects in class
	W (11/15)	Work on Literary Magazine Projects in class
	F (11/17)	Work on Literary Magazine Projects in class
14	M (11/20)	Work on Literary Magazine Projects in class
	W (11/22)	<i>Thanksgiving Break: No Class</i>
	F (11/24)	<i>Thanksgiving Break: No Class</i>
15	M (11/27)	Work on Literary Magazine Projects in class
	W (11/29)	Work on Literary Magazine Projects in class
	F (12/1)	Finish Literary Magazine Projects Literary Magazine Projects due online by 11:59 pm Introductory Letter due online by 11:59 pm

Final exam schedule plans are TBA and will depend on *Beacon* production timing.