Marten Fall 2019 THR 260-803 *Milwaukee Stories*

**THR 260-803- Storytelling**

**Dates:** 9/4/19-12/11/19  
**Classroom:** NW Quadrant, G558  
**Class meeting times:** Every Mon/Wed, 2:00-3:15 PM

**Expected average student time investment**
- Class meetings- 40 hours  
- Assigned homework- 20 hours  
- Service Project- 30 hours  
- Final Project- 30 hours  
- Weekly average (using 15 weeks)
  
  **8 hours per week**

**Instructor:** Becca Marten, Adjunct Faculty  
- Email: nielsenr@uwm.edu  
- Cell phone: 414-405-8633  
- Office hours: By Appointment Only

**Guidelines**

- Be curious.  
- Use your common sense and be compassionate to yourself and others.  
- Empathize with others.  
- Show up prepared and ready to work. We can’t do this without you.  
- Leave your problems at the door.  
- Dividing your attention is rude and stops you from getting the most out of this course. Turn off your cell phones and other devices unless specifically needed for course activities.  
- Organize your work ahead of deadlines.  
- Communicate frequently and listen. Respect is required.  
- Ask questions. Questions are encouraged.  
- Active participation is requisite.  
- Collaborate whenever possible.

**What do I do if I have an emergency or a question?** Email, call or text. When you text be sure to identify who you are and what course you are talking about.

**Catalogue Description:** Development of skills to locate, clarify, and tell stories from every culture ranging from conversation to performance.

**Course Description:** This course explores storytelling. Students will engage in communication,
listening, and performing stories. They will explore myths, legends, folk tales, personal stories, and oral histories. Students will also be given opportunities to develop their storytelling skills and give back to the community through the service learning component.

**Scope and Sequence:**

A. Story and language: Linguistics and communication.
B. Communication through stories: listening and speaking—negotiating relationships and building shared meaning.
C. Learning through stories: narrative and voice in our minds, making meaning from narrative, teaching through storytelling.
D. Critical Perspectives: personal, socio-cultural, and universal perspectives and interpretations.
E. Folklore: personal/life story; folk tales, myths, and oral history.
F. Performance of stories—with and to others in public.

**University Policies:** Please make yourself familiar with the following UWM policies: [http://www4.uwm.edu/secu/docs/faculty/1895.pdf](http://www4.uwm.edu/secu/docs/faculty/1895.pdf)


**Course Goals:**

1. Expose students to the storytelling art form;
2. Impact students’ abilities to tell, communicate, and perform stories aloud;
3. Examine stories from multi-cultural and diverse perspectives;
4. Engage in creating storytelling performances;
5. Engage with community through storytelling.

**Student Outcomes:**

- Students will hone and demonstrate storytelling and communication skills.
- Students will express, interpret and analyze their own and others’ storytelling.
- Students will craft story performances and devise theatrical presentations that integrate, incorporate, and reflect a students’ learning in this course.

**What is the attendance policy?** Come to every class prepared. Actively participate in all class activities.

**What if I am late?** If you encounter a transportation-related problem get to class as soon as you can. Being late is better than not showing up at all.

**Can I be absent?** Attending all the classes should be your goal. But, occasionally there
are emergencies. To pass you must attend a minimum of 30 classes—with the following exceptions:

- When there is no on-campus class meeting you are assigned independent work in Canvas/D2L. Submission (on time) of the online assignment is evidence of attendance for that week.

- Our final stories will be performed on **December 10th** and **December 12th**. These are REQUIRED class sessions. No absences are permitted on 12/10 and 12/12.

**Ok, but what if I have a real emergency?** Real emergencies do happen. In that case you should contact Becca as soon as possible to discuss the situation.

**What is a real emergency?** Real unplanned events that impact your personal (or your family’s) safety, death, or health, or well-being.

   **NONE of the following are real emergencies:**
   - Missing the bus or any similar transportation problem.
   - You are/were in a show and the production took up your time so you couldn’t come to class/complete an assignment.
   - You forgot or misread the calendar and syllabus and “didn’t realize that the assignment was due.”
   - Roommates and friends/family needed to socialize so you did not have enough time.
   - Computers or other technologies broke down and/or you were in a place where there was no access to the internet and/or there was no possible way for you to find a computer or internet connection anywhere.
   - You were on a vacation, took extra days for break, went on a trip to see friends or family.
   - Your dog/cat/pet was ill.
   - Your boss scheduled you for lots more hours at work than originally planned.

**Grades:** All work is required. Homework assignments are due at the beginning of each class. Late submissions result in lower grades, assignments turned in over two weeks late are counted as zeroes. If you have a real emergency (see above), let Becca know as soon as is practicable. Becca will work with you to figure out a sensible and compassionate alternative so that you are not penalized for a problem outside of your control.

**Grading Rubric:**

- **A** = all learning tasks completed in an exemplary fashion and on time: 100%-93% of points.
- **B** = all learning tasks completed well with high quality work and on time. 85%-92% of points.
- **C** = all learning tasks completed satisfactorily, some work submitted after deadline. 84%-78% of points.
D = all or some learning tasks were partially completed or work was unsatisfactory, lacking, or consistently late. 77%-75% of points.

F = all or some learning tasks were not completed, missing, or completed in a way that did not meet requirements: Below 74% of points or less.

INC = Students are awarded an INC grade if any/all assignments are not submitted. In the case of an INC grade a student is sometimes allowed to redo or submit missing assignments after the course is closed. The instructor, must approve or disapprove this action and in writing. However, after an INC defaults to an F grade no makeup work will be considered or accepted.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>DUE DATE</th>
<th>ASSIGNMENTS POINTS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9/9</td>
<td>Survey (your entrance ticket) 50 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/11</td>
<td>Reading 1-10: open-book quiz (done in class) 100 points</td>
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<td>9/16</td>
<td>Class Participation 1- 50 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/18</td>
<td>Reading 16-40: open-book quiz (done in class) 100 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/23</td>
<td>Service-Learning first plan (in D2L dropbox) 100 points</td>
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<td>9/25</td>
<td>Class Participation 2- 50 points</td>
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<td>9/30</td>
<td>SL- Meeting with group report (in D2L discussion) 100 points</td>
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<td>10/2</td>
<td>Class Participation 3- 50 points</td>
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<td>10/7</td>
<td>Final Story pre-plan 100 points</td>
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<td>10/9</td>
<td>Storyteller: response (in D2L discussion) 50 points</td>
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<td>10/14</td>
<td>Story ready to tell (told in class) 100 points</td>
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<td>10/16</td>
<td>Class Participation/Written feedback 4-50 points</td>
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<td>10/21</td>
<td>Reading 40-98: open-book quiz (done in class) 100 points</td>
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<td>10/23</td>
<td>Service Learning Final preplan and report (in D2L discussion) 100 points</td>
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<td>10/28</td>
<td>Class Participation 5- 50 points</td>
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<td>10/30</td>
<td>Read/Tell submission 100 points</td>
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<td>11/4</td>
<td>Class Participation 6- 50 points</td>
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<td>11/6</td>
<td>Final Story midpoint report (in D2L dropbox) 100 points</td>
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<td>11/11</td>
<td>Class Participation 7- 50 points</td>
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<td>11/13</td>
<td>Service-Learning projects completed/report 200 points (submitted in D2L Dropbox)</td>
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<td>11/18</td>
<td>Final Story check in (in CourseMedia) 100 points</td>
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<td>11/20</td>
<td>Final Story final plan 100 points (submitted in D2L Dropbox)</td>
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<td>11/25</td>
<td>Thankful story sharing 100 points</td>
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<td>12/2</td>
<td>Class Participation 8-50 points</td>
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<td>12/4</td>
<td>Class Participation 9- 50 points</td>
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<td>12/9</td>
<td>Final Story/report 500 points (100 points-report)</td>
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<td>12/11</td>
<td>Final Story/report 500 points (100 points-report)</td>
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2,600 points