

## Preliminary Web Course Description

\*Please note: This is a preliminary web course description only. The department reserves the right to change without notice any information in this description. The final, binding course outline will be distributed in the first class of the semester.

### School of English and Theatre Studies

Course Code: ENGL 4500	Course Title: Non-Fiction Prose	Date of Offering: <b>Winter 2018</b>
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Course Instructor: Paul Salmon	Course Format: Class Presentations/Lectures/Discussions
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#### Brief Course Synopsis:

A number of cultural commentators have argued that we are living in a golden age of long form journalism. Yet, not so long ago, such optimism may well have seemed counter intuitive. As recently as the 1990s, it seemed to many observers that the manner in which the web challenged traditional publication models might deal a devastating blow to many traditional newspapers and magazines, and that a fiercely competitive atmosphere would make it increasingly unlikely for journalists to be given opportunities to probe serious subjects at length. However, many established entities like *The New Yorker*, *Atlantic Magazine*, *The Guardian*, *Vanity Fair*, etc. remain excellent sources for long form journalism, and their online presence has made longer articles on a range of subjects more readily accessible. Additionally, many new online publications have added to the opportunities for readers to access excellent non-fiction writing on virtually every conceivable topic. This term we will examine a selection of works of long form journalism, with particular focus on such matters as journalistic style, the adaptation of the strategies of fiction writing to non-fiction and the impact of the web on the distribution and reception of long form journalism.

**Method of Evaluation and Weights:**

Class Presentation: 20%

Midterm 20%

Essay Proposal 10%

Essay Draft 20%

Final Essay 30% (approx. 15 pages or 4500 words)

**Texts and/or Resources Required (eg. Internet access, specific textbook title, lab kit, etc.)**

As all of our course readings will be accessible via Courselink. Internet access is required.

**Other information that you wish share about the course (optional):**