Guidelines

**Attendance:** This course is organized as a workshop. Your attendance and participation are absolutely necessary. Because the writing workshop offers a priceless opportunity to develop the critical skills all writers rely upon, I cannot in good conscience close my eyes to student absences. **POOR ATTENDANCE (i.e., more than three absences during the term) WILL BE PENALIZED.** I am not interested in reasons for absences. I’m willing to believe that you act in good faith, but I expect you to show the same good faith to the class. If you fail at this responsibility, prepare for the consequences—a lower grade or an F. (But see below concerning religious observances.)

**Mechanics:** Type your work. For workshop sessions bring copies for each class member plus one for me. Prepare for workshop by reading classmates’ papers. Write brief comments on the papers and return them to their authors when we finish discussion. You will find these comments helpful when you receive them. Return the favor to your classmates.

**Course Content:** You will write several papers, each of which will receive class comment as you work on it. Expect to revise extensively. I may also assign brief summary papers which will not receive workshop attention. In addition, expect to write brief critiques of classmates’ work in progress which I will collect frequently, usually without advance notice. These brief critiques will count in your final grade.

**Readings:** Our principal texts, other than student papers, will include Simon Wiesenthal’s *The Sunflower*, Hanna Krall’s collection of stories, *The Woman from Hamburg*, and *Everything is Illuminated* by Jonathan Safran Foer. These books are available in both bookstores. I will also distribute copies of essays and articles. You will need a good dictionary and a writer’s handbook, such as the *Little Brown Brief Handbook* or Diana Hacker’s *A Pocket Style Manual*, both of which are available in the CU bookstore. You may use a different one if you already have it.

**Office Hours:** MWF 2:15-3:15 and by appointment. My office is in Temporary Building #1 Room 110. Call me at 303 492-5429. My mailbox is in TB #1, first floor hallway. E-mail: Judith.Lavinsky@Colorado.edu.

**Religious Observances:** If you have a religious observance that conflicts with class, you will be excused, and the absence will not count in your total. Please notify me in advance so that we can work out a schedule for making up missed work. Be guided by the university’s site: http://www.interfaithcalendar.org.

**Other Considerations:** Writing Program instructors make every effort to accommodate students with disabilities. If you qualify for accommodations because of a disability, please submit a letter from Disability Services in a timely manner so that your needs may be addressed. Disability Services determines accommodations based on documented disabilities. Reach DS at 303-492-8671, Willard 322.

**Honor Code:** Please review the university Honor Code (http://www.colorado.edu/academics/honorcode/). I fully support the university’s efforts to encourage students to practice the highest level of academic ethics.

**Warning:** I will not give a letter grade to a paper unless I’ve seen it in progress during the workshop sessions. A plagiarized paper will receive an F, the student who submits it may receive an F in the course, and the case may be turned over to the Dean for further action.
AFTER THE HOLOCAUST, UNFINISHED BUSINESS

The late Simon Wiesenthal devoted his whole adult life to the pursuit of justice for those killed or damaged by the Holocaust. When the last participants—victim, persecutors, and bystanders—are all gone and the events we describe with that term become just a painful part of our distant cultural history, will achieving justice finally cease to be an issue? Evidently not. Writers too young to have played a part in the events described by the term Holocaust are still confronting the problem of justice as part of the unfinished business that drives their work. For this course we’ll read fiction and non-fiction by W.G. Sebald, Hannah Krall, Jonathan Safran Foer, and Simon Wiesenthal. This is a writing workshop which will use your own writing as the principal text for the course. Expect to write two or three major expository papers, each of which will go through numerous revisions.

Judith Lavinsky, Senior Instructor, PWR