

### Lesson Plan—Week 3

#### *Topic*

**The People Are the Story.** Creative nonfiction narratives are populated by real people: historical or current, friends or strangers, self or other. The writer’s job is to depict those people as honestly as possible on the page.

#### *Learning Objective*

The learner will identify techniques for writing effectively (and ethically) about themselves and others in their science/religion narratives.

#### ***Instructional Aid***

#### **Anticipatory Set**

Ask students to read Archer’s essay

*Amye Archer, “Writing the Truth in Memoir.”*

<http://brevitymag.com/craft-essays/writing-the-truth-in-memoir/>

#### **Pre-assessment**

Ask students to reflect on Archer’s essay, answering discussion questions that focus on the problem of objectivity within science/religion narratives

*Discussion questions (moderated by fellows/mentor)*

#### **Learning Activity**

##### *Lecture*

500-1,000 word written lecture on writing characters in CNF

*-Annotated excerpt from “The Monsters at the Center of the Earth”  
-Audio or video file of lecture*

##### *Reading*

Assign a reading of a creative nonfiction essay that demonstrates techniques from lecture and supporting text

*Discussion Questions to support text*

#### **Post-assessment**

##### *Focused Micro-Prompt*

Assign a writing prompt where students use the new skill set to conduct an interview and write a scene

*Write a scene based on a conversation you’ve had in real life about your science/religion topic. Focus on writing honestly and objectively about yourself and the other person using dialogue and characterization*

<b>Reinforcement</b> <i>Extra Reading</i>	<i>Judith Padow, "Using Fiction within Nonfiction to Navigate Difficult Emotional Terrain."</i> <a href="http://brevitymag.com/craft-essays/using-fiction-within-nonfiction-to-navigate-difficult-emotional-terrain/">http://brevitymag.com/craft-essays/using-fiction-within-nonfiction-to-navigate-difficult-emotional-terrain/</a>
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### **Week 3 Learning and Instructional Materials**

Amye Archer, Writing the Truth in Memoir: Don't Skimp on Objectivity, Brevity May 7, 2016. Available at [brevitymag.com/craft-essays/writing-the-truth-in-memoir/](http://brevitymag.com/craft-essays/writing-the-truth-in-memoir/)

Judith Padow, Using Fiction within Nonfiction to Navigate Difficult Emotional Terrain, Brevity May 14, 2017. Available at [brevitymag.com/craft-essays/using-fiction-within-nonfiction-to-navigate-difficult-emotional-terrain/](http://brevitymag.com/craft-essays/using-fiction-within-nonfiction-to-navigate-difficult-emotional-terrain/)