

BRINGING MEMOIR CHARACTERS TO LIFE

Course Syllabus

Week 1

- ❖ Character Persona Traits
- ❖ Options for Characterization
- ❖ Show, Don't Tell

Week 2

- ❖ Characters Who Speak
- ❖ Characters Who Think
- ❖ Characters Who Act and React
- ❖ Writing Dynamic Dialogue

Week 3

- ❖ Narrator as Character
- ❖ 3 Dimensional Characters
- ❖ Defining Character Threads

Week 4

- ❖ The Artful Use of Rhetoric Devices
- ❖ Self-Editing Tips for Revision
- ❖ Writing Assignments

The weekly course content will include:

- new instructional materials
- suggested readings
- notebook exercises
- writing assignment
- light edits and critique on assignments you turn in

Expectations

Writing is an ACTIVE event. Writers write; they don't just think about it. They actively engage in writing related activities on a regular basis. Those activities can include journal writing, noodling around exercises, completing an assignment, story or vignette, or simply spending time with good books that offer inspiration and how-to.

I offer a safe container here in this online classroom for you to explore your creativity and begin the stories you've come to tell. Please participate to get the most benefit from the class.

Opportunities to participate include:

- complete the notebook exercises (as many as you like)
- complete and submit the writing assignment (1 piece per week, up to 750 words)
- read the suggested readings
- ask questions of instructor via email
- participate in online feedback

An adult class online offers an opportunity to be a lurker. However, we all know that you get back in direct proportion to what you put into anything you do. I will reward the time you invest with summative and formative feedback to help you grow as a writer.

Even if you cannot complete any writing for the week, please send a check-in email to me weekly to let me know you're receiving the materials.

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