

- A. Autobiography is an important literary genre and is a course typically featured in college English programs. It is part of a recognized foundation for students who major in English or other areas of the Liberal Arts or Humanities.
- B. This course does not have a Lab component
- C. This course generally transfers as an English Literature or Humanities general education course dependent on the transfer institution.

IV. Place of Course in College Curriculum

- A. Free Elective
- B. This course serves as a General Education course in the Humanities/English Literature
- C. This course meets a Category B elective requirement in the English AA degree.
- D. To see course transferability: a) for New Jersey schools, go to the NJ Transfer website, www.njtransfer.org; b) for all other colleges and universities, go to the individual websites.

V. Outline of Course Content

- A. Introduction to the genre of autobiography, including approaches and history.
- B. Types of autobiography: Examples include spiritual autobiography, captivity narratives, autobiography in fiction and poetry, and graphic autobiographical works.
- C. A study of autobiographical texts by diverse writers from different periods.
- D. Ways to read, interpret and write about autobiographies.

VI. A. Course Learning Outcomes:

Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Analyze the historical, social, and literary implications of autobiographies from diverse time periods and perspectives (GE 6, 7, 8, *)
2. Use textual evidence to support logical and persuasive claims in discussion and in writing. (GE 1, 6, *)
3. Explain the genre of autobiography, including its cultural and literary history.
4. Compare different approaches to autobiography as a genre.

(*Embedded critical thinking)

B. Assessment Instruments

1. analytical essays
2. student presentations
3. exams
4. journals

5. response essays
6. portfolios
7. group projects

VII. Grade Determinants

- A. essays and/or response papers that communicate effectively in standard English, with attention to grammar, mechanics and finer points of style
- B. presentations
- C. exams
- D. informal writing
- E. group projects
- F. preparation for and participation in class

This course may include the following modes of teaching:

- A. lecture/discussion
- B. small-group work
- C. computer-assisted instruction
- D. guest speakers
- E. student oral presentations
- F. student collaboration
- G. independent study

VIII. Texts and Materials

Samples of specific texts include:

- A. Mary Crow Dog, *Lakota Woman*
- B. Edwidge Danticat, *Brother, I'm Dying*
- C. Benjamin Franklin, *The Autobiography of Benjamin Franklin*
- D. Mary Karr, *The Liar's Club*
- E. Maxine Hong Kingston, *The Woman Warrior*
- F. Rigoberta Menchu, *I, Rigoberta Menchu: An Indian Woman in Guatemala*
- G. Mary Rowlandson, *A Narrative of the Captivity and Restoration of Mrs. Mary Rowlandson*
- H. Marjane Satrapi, *Persepolis*
- I. Tobias Wolff, *This Boy's Life*
- J. Malcolm X, *The Autobiography of Malcolm X*
- K. Booker T. Washington, *Up from Slavery*

(Please Note: The course outline is intended only as a guide to course content and resources. Do not purchase textbooks based on this outline. The RVCC Bookstore is the sole resource for the most up-to-date information about textbooks.)

IX. Resources

Students will need to be able to access the library's databases and other library resources.

X. Check One: Honors Course Honors Options N/A

There is no Honors option for this course