

UC Davis Quarter Abroad: Internships & Writing in Sydney

Course Leader: Melissa Bender
Quarter: Fall 2017

UWP 110: Travel Writing

When we travel, we enter an unfamiliar environment and encounter others with whom we share a common humanity but whose ways of life or understandings of the world may differ from our own. Thus, traveling puts us in a position of negotiation, shifting frequently between recognizing the familiar in a place that is new to us and experiencing the shock of disorientation. Travel writing arises out of this negotiation. In UWP 110, we will be studying travel writing as a genre and you will be composing a number of travel essays based on your experiences as a temporary resident in Sydney and traveler in Australia. Instruction will also help you to do the following:



- Select and focus compelling material from your travel experiences.
- Differentiate the subject and the story of your essays.
- Learn narrative techniques common to travel writing.
- Craft your travel writing to appeal to particular kinds of audiences and publications.
- Develop a lively and engaging prose style.
- Strengthen your ability to organize, draft, revise, and edit your work.

Required Texts

All required texts will be posted on the Canvas course site. These may include excerpts from the following:

Robin Davidson, *Tracks*

Jill Ker Conway, *The Road from Coorain*

Bill Bryson, *Down Under*

Paul Theroux, *The Happy Isles of Oceania*

David Malouf, "The Kyogle Line"

Because many travel essays are informed by historical knowledge, some of the reading selections from UWP 102C—such as the journals and letters of Cook, Darwin, and Henning—will also be discussed in the context of UWP 110.

Course Assignments & Grade Distribution

Detailed descriptions of the requirements for all assignments will be distributed on Canvas.

UWP 102C--Writing in History		UWP 110--Travel Writing	
Assignment	Weight	Assignment	Weight
Historical newspaper analysis	10%	Travel blog	5%
Annotated bibliography	10%	Travel essay 1	15%
Research paper	30%	Travel essay 2	30%
Quizzes/homework	2%	Quizzes/homework	2%
Final Exam	10%	Final Exam	10%
Subtotal	62%	Subtotal	62%
UWP 102C and UWP 110 The following assignments will count for <i>both</i> courses.			
Historically informed travel feature		25%	
Presentation		10%	
Participation		3%	
Subtotal		38%	
UWP 102C Total	100%	UWP 110 Total	100%