Preliminary Syllabus

Instructor Name: Peter Kline
Course Name: CNF 25 – The Art and Craft of Creative Nonfiction

Grading
You have three options:
1.) No Grade Requested (this is the default option). No work will be required; no credit shall be received; no proof of attendance can be provided.
2.) If you elect to Credit/No Credit, attendance will determine your grade.
3.) If you elect to obtain a letter grade, your attendance, participation, and submitted work will account for 100% of your grade.

Course Work
Each student will write two essays in the class, one narrative-based essay and one of the student’s choice. Students will also work on a variety of writing exercises pertinent to the published essays we will be studying. These exercises will develop descriptive techniques, rhetorical strategies, and aspects of narrative including characterization, dialogue, and scene-building.

Workshop
The idea of the workshop-based class is to help students learn to revise their own writing and to give constructive feedback about the writing of others. Each student will have the opportunity to workshop one piece of writing during the ten-week course. Students up for workshop should submit their writing with one copy for the instructor and a copy for each of the workshop participants. Students should also provide written feedback each week on the writing of other students being workshoped.

---

Week 1
*The Stardust Lounge*
from *The Situation and the Story*
Introductions. Descriptive Writing.

Week 2
*The Stardust Lounge*
Narrative Writing – Characterization

Week 3
*The Stardust Lounge*
Narrative Writing – Place and Time

Week 4 - **Essay #1 Due**
*The Stardust Lounge*
Narrative Writing – Plot and Point of View

Week 5
*Grace Notes*
Figurative Language

Week 6
*Grace Notes*
Rhetoric

Week 7 - **Essay #2 Due**
*Grace Notes*
Lyric Form

Week 8
*Slouching Towards Bethlehem*
Meditative Form

Week 9
*Slouching Towards Bethlehem*
Style

Week 10
*Slouching Towards Bethlehem*
Revision. Writing and the World.