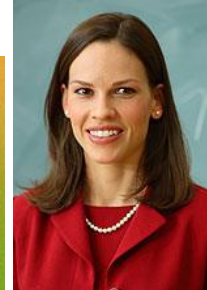
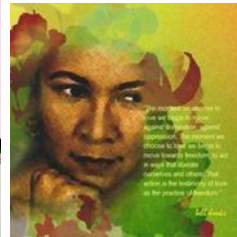


MAYMESTER 2016
English 8900: The Teaching Life in Fact and Fiction
Dr. Beth Burmester, 1:45 to 4:00pm (CRN 54120)



This class is designed for all the concentrations in English (Literary Studies, Creative Writing, and Rhetoric and Composition) and for students in the TEEMS program. The focus will be on investigating the representations and identity of secondary and post-secondary teachers through genres including scholarly writing, memoir, and fiction, and through filters of gender, race, sexuality, class and cultural studies.

The aims are to provide students inquiry and meta-reflection into what it means to teach, to be a teacher, and to create a teaching persona and philosophy. We will explore pedagogies (queer, feminist, student-centered, and others), as well as the scholarship of learning, teacher ethnography, memoir-writing, the extracurricular aspects of a teaching life, including tutoring, off-campus, and teachers as practicing writers.

Assignments may include: short reading responses, in-class writing exercises, written observations of fictional teachers, a book review; memoir essay.

POTENTIAL TEXTS INCLUDE:

NONFICTION

Mike Rose, *Lives on the Boundary* (memoir; literacy narrative)
Doug Hunt, *Misunderstanding the Assignment: Teenage Students, College Writing, and the Pains of Growth* (ethnography of a graduate teaching assistant's Composition Course)
Rebekah Nathan, *My Freshman Year: What A Professor Learned By Becoming A Student*
Selections from: bell hooks, Roxane Gay, Lad Tobin, Michael Johnston, Harry Denny

FICTION

Chapter 2, "Cipher," in *Prep: A Novel* by Curtis Sittenfeld (first-year high school teacher)
Donald Margulies, *Collected Stories: A Play* (Creative Writing)
May Sarton, *The Small Room* (novel; first year college teacher)
Richard Russo, "Horseman" (short story; adjunct teaching)
Charles Baxter, "Fendstad's Mother" (short story; adjunct teaching)
ZZ Packer, "Drinking Coffee Elsewhere" (short story; first year college student)
Langston Hughes, "Theme for English A" (poem; first year college student)

FILMS

Dead Poets Society; Emperor's Club; Dangerous Minds; Freedom Writers; Room 222; Man Without a Face; The King's Speech, Higher Learning, The Blind Side; Between the Walls; Monsieur Lazhar; teachers; Educating Rita; Chalk, Precious, The Ron Clark Story, Summar School, The Karate Kid