Contextualizing Narrative

Creative Writing MFA Program, Fresno State

Updated 8/5/20

Your Thesis Chair will assist you in developing and writing a culminating contextualizing narrative, due in your final semester of the program.

This assignment is an opportunity to:

1. Discuss significant literary and artistic influences that have shaped the development of your thesis
2. Situate your work within the current literary landscape
3. Articulate your process in developing your thesis

The narrative should address at least 20 works (books/works you have read in courses, books/works read on your own, titles from the MFA reading lists in fiction, poetry, and creative nonfiction, etc.) that have influenced your writing over the course of the MFA. ANY book that is assigned for one of your workshops, Form & Theory, or 250T courses may be used in your Contextualizing Narrative

The narrative may be formatted as:

* An annotated bibliography, with annotations that are approximatelyone page in length, or
* An essay that addresses influential works/books in narrative form

Your thesis chair will collect this culminating assignment from you in the semester you graduate. In your 299 courses and Form and Theory courses, you will have an opportunity to read, analyze, and compile your book lists for this culminating assignment. Any format changes may be made in consultation with Thesis Chair.