

## JOU 280: Introduction to Magazine Writing

Assignment: Written Critiques

Point Total: 50

**Overview:** Students will write 3-4 page critiques of national magazine nominated stories

### Components:

- Theme: a one sentence description of the story using the elements discussed in class
- Analysis: a brief argument (with specific examples) of what elements worked and what elements didn't (e.g. how anecdotes were used, transitions or word choices)
- Introduction: an analysis of the opening anecdote, explaining the type, what the author is trying to do and how it illustrates the theme
- Act Structure: an analysis of each individual act and a specific breakdown of the anecdotes as they fit into the scene structure of the acts (e.g. Hero's Journey) with particular emphasis on how the scene builds towards the overall theme.
  - Anecdotes: an analysis of each of the anecdotes with the piece, explaining what type of anecdote, and how it's used to push the story along (with a nod to the act structure)
  - Action Descriptions: an analysis of how the author used the descriptions in words to create action within the piece

	A	B	C	D	F
Theme (5)					
Analysis (20)					
Intro (5)					
Act Structure (20)					
<b>Total</b>					