Dear Applicant,

Thank you for your interest in Literary Reportage. This letter contains lots of information about, and links to, various aspects of the program. I know it isn’t possible for every applicant to visit NYU, but I urge anyone who can to do so. While here you can sit in on some classes, and meet with students and faculty. If you can come, contact Ula Kulpa (uk280@nyu.edu), the Lit Rep GA, who will help coordinate your visit.

2016/2017 was a busy, productive year. Here is some of what has been going on:

- In September, Professor Ted Conover had a discussion with Literary Reportage alum Rob Moor and his book, On Trails: An Exploration (Simon & Schuster), which began as his thesis.

- The week after that, Professor Meryl Gordon (Magazine director) and I spoke with Jay Fielden, the new editor-in-chief of Esquire.

- In October, we hosted a live recording of the Esquire Classic podcast. This is in keeping with our commitment to audio. Because some of today’s best literary reportage come from This American Life, Radiolab, Studio 360, Planet Money and other audio programs, we’ve expanded the program’s commitment to audio reportage by requiring all incoming students to take an Introduction to Audio Reportage, taught on alternate years by Alex Kapelman, co-creator of Pitch, and Audrey Quinn, an award-winning multimedia journalist and audio producer (Audrey...
is teaching it in Fall 2017). In Spring 2017, we added an Intermediate Audio Reportage class, during which you can polish your skills. And we continue to offer a Lit Rep-exclusive, week-long, audio crash course in the last week in August, taught by Mitra Kaboli, co-creator of *The Heart*. Here is what they produced last year.

- In February, Professor Ted Conover had a conversation with a Shane Bauer, an award-winning senior reporter at *Mother Jones*, about working as a prison guard in a for-profit prison.

- And in April, we co-hosted a panel discussion with the Institute for Public Knowledge about Professor Ted Conover’s new book, *Immersion: A Writer’s Guide to Going Deep*.

- Natalie Lampert received a contract for *Me and My Ovary: Reproductive Rights, the FemTech Revolution, and the Future of Fertility* from Ballantine Books, an imprint of Random House. It grows out of the work Natalie published while at NYU. This brings the number of book contracts to emerge from the program to seven.

- Our students and alumni continue to publish widely and well. We are proud that Lit Rep student Laura Lee Huttenbach (2018) published her book, *Running With Raven*.

- The Mentorship Program continues to pair every Lit Rep student with a professional journalist. In exchange for five hours of research per week, the journalist will spend one hour on your work.

**CLASSES**

You are welcome to sit in on as many classes as you like. Email the professor the day before, both as a courtesy, and to make sure the schedule hasn’t changed. All syllabi are available [here](#).

Here are some of classes Lit Rep students are most likely to take
- Varieties of First Person, Ted Conover, Monday, 3-6 (room 655)
- Writing, Research & Reporting I, Liza Featherstone, Tuesday, 9:15-12:15 (room 659)*
- Profiles and Biography, Meryl Gordon, Tuesday, 12-3 (room 653)
- Journalism of War, Terrorism and Human Rights, Susie Linfield, Tues, 5-8 (7th Floor Library)
- Introduction to Audio Reportage, Audrey Quinn, Wednesday, 9-1 (room 659)*
- Introduction to Literary Reportage, Robert Boynton, Thursday, 11-2 (room 652)*
- Personal Essay, Suketu Mehta, Thursday, 10-12:30 (room 654)
- The Art of Argument and Polemic, Katie Roiphe, Thursday, 9:45-12:45 (7th Floor Library)
- Elza Griswold, Thursday, 6-9 (7th Floor Library)

* Required
STUDENTS
Students are the best sources of information about the program. Here is contact information for
some current and past Lit Rep students.

Current Students
Oliver Conroy, oliverconroy@gmail.com
Elizabeth Cantrell, lizdcantrell@mac.com
Marina Koslock, mlk471@nyu.edu
Anaka Kaundinya, anaka91@gmail.com
Ryan Sweikert, ryan.sweikert@gmail.com

Alum
Sarah Aziza, sarahaziza17@gmail.com
Kate Essig, essigkate@gmail.com
Mathew Rodriguez, mathewkrodriguez@gmail.com
Sarah Stodder, sarah.stodder@gmail.com
Natalie Lampert, natalielampert@nyu.edu
Hannah McCarthy, hannahrcmccarthy@gmail.com
Lindsey Smith, lindsjean@gmail.com
Taylor Beck, taylor.beck216@gmail.com
Kelsey Kudak, kkudak@gmail.com
Will Hunt, willhuntblue@gmail.com
Cody Upton, cody.upton@gmail.com
Robert Moor, rmoor1984@gmail.com
Patrick Arden, patrickarden@yahoo.com

I hope this information is helpful. Don’t hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Best,
Prof. Robert Boynton
robert.boynton@nyu.edu