



NEW YORK UNIVERSITY

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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 classes, and meet with students and faculty. If you can come, contact Savannah Lucas (savylucas@gmail.com), the Lit Rep GA, who will help coordinate your visit.

The 2018/2019 year was especially busy and productive. Here are some highlights:

- We began the year with a discussion between NYU adjunct professor Anand Giridharadas and New Yorker staff writer Larissa MacFarquhar, about Anand's new book, *Winners Take All: The Elite Charade of Changing the World*.
- In October, Curtis Fox, the producer of the award-winning podcast, *Ear Hustle*, took us through the making of an episode, from interviews to sound design.
- In February, Literary Reportage alum Will Hunt discussed his book, *Underground: A Human History of the World Beneath our Feet*, which grew out of his Lit Rep thesis, with Professor Ted Conover, the Journalism Institute's director.
- In June Literary Reportage alum Ryan Sweikert launched *Believable*, a new podcast for Narratively.
- Professor Suketu Mehta just published *This Land is Our Land: An Immigrant's Manifesto*
- Literary Reportage alum Lance Richardson got a contract from Knopf for his second book, a biography of the writer Peter Mathiesson.

- Literary Reportage student Jerad Alexander (2020) got a contract from Algonquin Books for *Volunteers: A Memoir of War, Manhood, and America*
- Eight books, and one podcast, have emerged from the program.
- Our students and alumni continue to publish widely.
- In March, Lit Rep co-sponsored a discussion between Naomi Klein and Greg Grandin on *The End of the myth: From the Frontier to the Border Wall in the American Mind*.
- Because some of today's best literary reportage come from *This American Life*, *Radiolab*, *Studio 360*, *Planet Money* and other programs, we've expanded the program's commitment to audio reportage by requiring all incoming students to take an Introduction to Audio Reportage. In addition, we now offer intermediate and advanced audio courses every semester.
- 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.
- The scope and quality of Lit Rep theses (both written and audio) continue to grow.

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 the classes Lit Rep students are most likely to take, and we advise you to visit:

- **WRRI: Literary Reportage**, Tuesday, 9:30-12:30, room #659, Prof. Featherstone
- **Introduction to Literary Reportage**, Thursday, 10:00-1:00, Room #659, Prof. Boynton
- **Writing About Immigration**, Wednesday, 4:00-7:00, 7th Fl Library, Prof. Mehta
- **Introduction to Audio Reportage**, Wednesday, 9:00-1:00, Room #659, Prof. Quinn
- **Intermediate Audio Reportage**, Monday, 5:00-8:30, Room #655, Prof. Horne
- **Writing Trouble**, Thursday, 3:00-6:00, 7th Fl Library, Prof. Griswold
- **Personal Essay**, Tuesday 1:00-4:00, Room #600, Prof. Gerard
- **Investigating Racial Justice**, Wednesday, 1:30-4:30, Room #657, Prof. Swarns
- **The Art of Argument and Polemic**, Thursday, 9:45-12:45, 7th Fl Library, Prof. Roiphe
- **The Critical Profile**, Monday, 10:00-1:00, Room #659, Prof. Smith

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

Current Students

Jerad Alexander, jerad.alexander@gmail.com
Kaitlyn Nicholas, kaitlyn.j.nicholas@gmail.com
Elizabeth Weissberg, elizabeth.weissberg@aya.yale.edu
Myciah Hazel, mycahhazel@gmail.com
Sevindj Nurkiyazova, sevindj@gmail.com
Robyn Lanz, robyn.n.lanz@gmail.com
Ryan Krause, krause.ryank@gmail.com

Alum

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Robert Moor, rmoor1984@gmail.com

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

Best,
Robert Boynton
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