## 🗱 BIZCOMMUNITY

## Write your memoir

Start writing your memoir and master the tools used by successful memoirists.

This course is for anyone who dreams of writing a memoir, but doesn't know how to go about it. The course offers expert, one-on-one training, line by line, from a professional writer, and provides a foundation in the craft of memoir. Learn how to set up a writing schedule, plan your memoir and start the process of putting your life story into words.

Course details: Modules: seven modules Duration: six months Course fee: R5,495 Start date: at any time, applications all year round

Student completes several writing exercises and a preliminary start of at least 10,000 words with one-on-one instruction from a tutor

Tutor:

Lisa Lazarus has co-written her memoir *The Book of Jacob* (Oshun) with her husband about the first year with their son, Jacob. Julia Denny-Dimitriou, writing for the Natal Witness, regarded this memoir as "the book that affected me most [in 2009]...A courageous and beautifully written book." She also works as a freelance journalist for a variety of publications, including Men's Health, Femina, Psychologies, Shape, Cosmopolitan, Femina, Healthy Pregnancy and the Mail & Guardian.

She has a master's degree in educational psychology. She is currently completing her master's in creative writing at UCT.

Admission requirements:

-Students must be proficient in the English Language

- -Email and internet access required
- -No previous tertiary qualification required

Curriculum:

Module one - an introduction to memoir

-What is memoir?

-Why do people write memoirs?

-How to overcome some common fears about writing memoir

-What you can expect from this course?

-Exercise: construct a schedule, your expectations for the course, and warm-up writing exercises.

Module two - the basics

-Different types of memoir

- -Understanding theme and point of view
- -Finding your voice
- -Reading memoirs

-Exercise: your memoir proposal, and discuss voice, theme and point of view in a memoir of your choice.

Module three - characterisation

-The narrator versus the protagonist

-Getting to know your protagonist

-The central character - you

-Memory triggers

-Other characters

-Assembling a cast of vivid, believable major and minor characters

-Exercise: using memory triggers and a brief scene in which two of your characters interact.

-Text installment: 700 words

Module four - plot -Plot versus story -The key elements of plot -Classic and alternative plot structures -Sub-plots -Exercise: the plot outline of your memoir -Text instalment: 1,500 words

Module five - setting -The environment: place, weather, light, sound, textures = atmosphere -Exercise: the setting of your memoir

-Text instalment: 2,000 words

Module six - putting scenes together

-Scenes, chapters and paragraphs

- -Transitions, beginnings and endings
- -Exercise: practice writing transitions
- -Text instalment: 2,000 words

Module seven - writing style

- -Good and bad style tips
- -Finding your own style
- -Exercise: examine your own writing style
- -Text instalment: 2,500 words
- -Final text instalment: 10,000 words

Date: 06 April 2017 Venue: Online correspondence course, Countrywide Cost: R5,495

Date: 27 April 2017 to 27 April 2016 Venue: Online correspondence course, Countrywide Cost: R5,495

Date: 04 May 2017 Venue: Online correspondence course, Countrywide Cost: R5,495

Date: 25 May 2017 Venue: Online correspondence course, Countrywide Cost: R5,495

Date: 01 June 2017 Venue: Online correspondence course, Countrywide Cost: R5,495

Date: 29 June 2017 Venue: Online correspondence course, Countrywide Cost: R5,495

Date: 06 July 2017 Venue: Online correspondence course, Countrywide Cost: R5,495

Date: 27 July 2017 Venue: Online correspondence course, Countrywide Cost: R5,495

Date: 03 August 2017 Venue: Online correspondence course, Countrywide Cost: R5,495

Date: 31 August 2017 Venue: Online correspondence course, Countrywide Cost: R5,495

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