

Amy Wright

“Inquiry into Fact and Story” English 102 Course Description

Facts are impersonal. Take these two: “189 skin-whitening products have been introduced to Asian and Pacific markets since 2002...55 films have been made since 1960 featuring an evil albino.” Or not. Facts *are* personal, or they can be. It depends on how they're told and who's telling. Facts can be stories. Stories can be fact. The line keeps sliding. We will skate on it for a semester, reading such writers as “magic” realist Gabriel García Márquez against Pulitzer-prize-winning journalist John Hersey. We will examine their work against creative nonfiction essays that similarly complicate the notion of truth as we research the intersection between facts and stories.