

Last Writers: ENRH-187

Course Description – Spring 2023

Faculty Sponsor/Course Director:

Gary Reed, MD,
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Student Liaisons:

Afeefa Khazi-Syed, MS2025
Tidie Song, MS2025
Evan Suzman, MS2025

Requirements:

- Course must have 5 students to be conducted; not to exceed an enrollment of 15.

Rationale:

What can we learn about medicine and being physicians from telling patient's stories? Last Writers hopes to engage medical students with the craft of Narrative Medicine by volunteering with local patients in hospice care to collect and tell their stories. The privileges that come with being a physician and entering the deepest parts of our patient's lives can be difficult. Writing about these experiences allows us to reflect on what it means to be a doctor while providing patients with a story of their lives.

Course Objectives:

1. Honor the lives of patients in hospice care.
2. Develop narrative medicine writing skills.
3. Learn skills related to taking a patient history.

Format:

4, one-hour sessions in to prepare for hospice visits. 8-10 hospice visits in student pairs to record the stories of patients. Students may make-up select sessions by reaching out to student liaison.

Course Evaluation:

Grading will be pass/fail. To receive transcript acknowledgement, students must:

- Attend all preparatory sessions and complete at least 8 hours of patient interviews
- Complete a minimum of 10 out of 12 required participant hours
- Complete the online REDCap course evaluation form

Schedule:

Preparatory sessions will meet both in person and via Zoom, Days TBD.