Contents

Acknowledgments xi
Introduction 1
Miriam Fuchs and Craig Howes

Part I: Generic Approaches

Literary Studies

Introduction to World Narrative 23
Roger J. Porter

Slipping Away, Sliding Around: Teaching Autobiography as—and Not as—History and Genre 32
Thomas R. Smith

Life Writing and Biographical Fiction: Contemporary Teaching and Learning Strategies 38
David Houston Jones

Diaries and Diarists 45
Suzanne L. Bunkers

Teaching Travel Writing as Life Writing 53
Gary Totten

Teaching "The Lives of the Victorians": A Historical Approach to Changing Conventions of Life Narrative 59
Alison Booth

Modernist American Literature and Life Writing 68
David Caplan

The Subject of Drugs 74
Martin A. Danahay

Sports Autobiographies and American Culture 81
James W. Pipkin

Writing the Self 91
John Mepham and Sarah Sceats

The Generic Instability of Contemporary Life Writing in Canada 99
Gabriele Helms

A+B≠B+A: Teaching Autobiographies and Biographies in Pairs 107
Timothy Dow Adams

Biography, Oral History, Autobiography: A Graduate Course 115
Craig Howes

Interdisciplinary Approaches

A Text of Their Own: Life Writing as an Introduction to Undergraduate English Studies 122
Cynthia Huff

Teaching *Rachel Calof's Story: Jewish Homesteader on the Northern Plains* 129
Kristine Peleg

Reading, Writing, Performing Life Writing: Multiple Constructions of Self 135
Katrina M. Powell

"In My Life": Growing Up with the Beatles from Liverpool to Abbey Road 143
Kenneth Womack

The Whole Picture: Using Nonliterary Forms of Artistic Production to Teach Life Writing 151
Thomas J. D. Armbrecht

Life Writings as New Cultural Contexts for the Meanings of Art and Artist 161
Julie F. Codell

Emblematic Sculptures: The Artwork of Felix Gonzalez-Torres in the Life Writing Classroom 171
Frances Freeman Paden

A Graduate Seminar in Life Writing: Posing and Composing Lives 180
Miriam Fuchs

Additional Resources for Teaching Life Writing Texts: Generic Approaches 191

Part II: Cultural Approaches

Times and Places

The Many Voices of Creation: Early American and Canadian Life Writing 195
Michael W. Young

Experiencing Collaborative Autobiography 201
Kathleen Boardman

Teaching Contemporary Australian Autobiography 208
Richard Freadman

Located Subjects 214
Gillian Whitlock and Kate Douglas

Life Writing in the New South Africa 221
Judith Lütge Coullie

An Undergraduate and Graduate Colloquium in Social History and Biography in the Modern Middle East and North Africa 233
Julia Clancy-Smith

Teaching Multicultural Life-History Writing Texts through Technology's Third Space: Reflections on a University of Washington–University of Asmara Collaboration 239
Sandra Chait and Ghirmai Negash

Ethnographic and Autoethnographic Approaches

No Indian Is an Island: On the Ethics of Teaching Indigenous Life Writing Texts 252
Daniel Heath Justice

Women, Race, Reading, and Feeling: Postmemory in Undergraduate Studies of Slave Narratives 260
Joycelyn K. Moody

Olaudah Equiano and the Concept of Culture 270
Sarah Brophy

Eastern European Oral Narratives of the *Walled-Up Wife* and Their Retelling in Recent Life Writing Texts 277
Iulia-Karin Patrut

Discerning Diversity in American Lives 286
Joanne Karpinski

Reading and Writing Ethnography 292
Jeraldine R. Kraver

Close Encounters: (Re)Teaching Ethnic Autobiography as Autoethnography 303
Gail Y. Okawa

Teaching Testimonio: A New, Ex-Centric Design Emerges 310
Arturo Arias

Gendered and Sexual Orientation Approaches

Anxiety of Choice: Teaching Contemporary Women's Autobiography 318
Susannah B. Mintz

Teaching Jo Spence's *Putting Myself in the Picture*: Pedagogy and Life Writing in and outside the University 327
Margaretta Jolly

Teaching Queer Lives 336
Georgia Johnston

Cultures of Life Writing 343
Trev Lynn Broughton

Illness and Disability Approaches

Quality-of-Life Writing: Illness, Disability, and Representation 350
G. Thomas Couser

Teaching Women's Depression Memoirs: Healing, Testimony, and Critique 359
Hilary Clark

What Do We Teach When We Teach Trauma? 367
Leigh Gilmore

Additional Resources for Teaching Life Writing: Cultural Approaches 374

Life Writing Resources for Teachers 376
Miriam Fuchs, Craig Howes, and Stanley Schab

Notes on Contributors 383
Index 391