Course Objectives

- Use introductory fiction writing techniques
- Critique peer work objectively using learned techniques and standards
- Adapt basic fiction writing pedagogy to a broadcast format
- Engage CHOP patients with imaginative activities
- Adapt, act and react to changeable circumstances
- Serve CHOP with effectiveness and sensitivity

Key Findings

Twenty-first-century skills are broadly defined as skills required to succeed in the contemporary workforce. The following skills are demonstrated outcomes of Story Medicine:

- Civic literacy, health and wellness awareness
- Learning and thinking skills
- Critical-thinking and problem-solving skills
- Life skills
- Civic Engagement
- Experiences with Diverse Populations
- Transferable Skills

Course engagement is a retention tool, facilitates the acquisition of 21st-century skills and is identified as an outcome of Story Medicine. Story telling is reported as preparing future physicians: The field of narrative medicine trains physicians in effective and creative storytelling techniques.

- Narrative medicine helps doctors process their own professional experience
- Narrative medicine correlates with improved patient outcomes

Conclusion

Institutions of higher education often offer creative or fiction writing courses to students. Unfortunately, such courses are often only identified as valuable to humanities majors. Research has demonstrated that employers seek 21st-century skills in their employees and medical professionals are now using story telling as a healthcare tool. One student best described the pedagogy when she stated, “This course has allowed me a glimpse into my future, solidifying my desires to be a physician.”