

ENGL 360

Poetry: 20th and 21st Centuries

HH 210

Tu/Th 12:30 to 1:50 p.m.

Fall 2013

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HH 223

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Note: This syllabus may be modified by the professor, as circumstances warrant. Students will be advised should any such modifications be made.

Course Description

A survey of British and American poetry, including dramatic, narrative, fictional, and lyrical forms.

The course may be selected for partial fulfillment of both the English major and English minor, and it may be included among the upper division courses required for graduation.

Required Literature (Titles *must* be edition and ISBN indicated)

Poetics

Aristotle (Joe Sachs, trans.)
Focus Publishing (2006)
ISBN 978-1-58510-187-0

Imagist Poetry: An Anthology

Bob Blaisdell, ed.
Dover Publications (1999)
ISBN 978-0-486-40875-0

Murder in the Cathedral

T. S. Eliot
Harvest Book/Harcourt (1963)
ISBN 978-0-15-663277-5

The Ballad of the White Horse

G. K. Chesterton
Dover Publications (2010)
ISBN 978-0-486-47563-9

Course Objectives

1. Students are able to adjust their use of . . . written language to communicate effectively with a variety of audiences and for different purposes. [from English Department Objectives]
2. Students demonstrate basic cultural literacy of the era, genres, movements (literary and philosophical), and historical events pertinent to particular course content, and can identify correctly allusions, excerpts from particular works, and works written by key authors. [from English Department Objectives]
3. Students can ask effective questions about and of texts [and] questions that situate texts in relation to the cultural, social, and historical contexts in which they were produced, as well as in relation to students' contemporary contexts. [from English Department Objectives]
4. Students exhibit a . . . competency of . . . knowledge of literary terminology. [from English Department Objectives]
5. Students increase their ability to use written . . . English effectively. [from Objectives of the College]
6. Students . . . apply MLA format to their formal written works. [from English Department Objectives]

Student Learning Outcomes

At the end of this course, students should be able to:

1. Identify correctly allusions taken directly from course literature. [from Course Objective 2]
2. Identify correctly excerpts from course literature. [from Course Objective 2]
3. Identify correctly excerpts from course authors. [from Course Objective 2]
4. Define literary terminology and then apply it to texts for evaluating its usage by course authors. [from Course Objective 4]
5. Ask effective questions of the various texts selected for this course. [from Course Objective 3]
6. Write persuasively about a genre, a poetic movement, and biography. [from Course Objectives 1, 2, 5, and 6]
7. Demonstrate basic cultural literacy. [from Course Objective 2]

Course Requirements

I. Reading Assignments

In order to ensure that students have read assigned textbooks in advance of their presentation in class, students will be given tests on said textbooks.

II. Research Paper [a measurement of Students Learning Outcomes 4, 5, 6, and 7]

Each student will research and write a six-page paper on “How the Personal Life Experiences of **[American or British poet born in 1900 or later]** Explain Some of the Poet’s Poetry.” The first page must be a *title page*, ***so that the second page begins the research paper on its first line.***

Each student will be assigned a different poet.

In order to retain the ability to perform research **without** using Internet or other electronic sources, each paper must be based on a minimum of *three* hard copies of print resources (books and/or journal articles). MLA (Modern Language Association) format is required for both in text citations and a Works Cited page.

The research paper is graded on 1) content accuracy, 2) thoroughness (which includes the title page, followed by five full pages of research presentation and analysis), 3) clarity (which includes grammar, mechanics, spelling, and the like), 4) correct use of MLA format, 5) double-space typing with standard font and margins, 5) following all of the above requirements, and 6) meeting the due date.

III. Attendance and Participation [a measurement of Student Learning Outcomes 4, 5, and 7]

Attendance in this course is required, as is participation. Students should note that even excused absences prevent participation. Students who do not satisfactorily participate in class on a voluntary basis as a result of not being in class should expect to receive a lowered final course grade. **Students who cannot attend class as scheduled are advised to enroll in this course in a semester when full participation is achievable.**

Students who miss class **for any reason** are **required** to contact the professor by e-mail **on the same day as the missed class meeting**. The nature of the absence must be provided. The professor will reply to all such messages, providing the student with a confirmation that the message was received.

Evaluation of Students

Tests [a measurement of Student Learning Outcomes 2 and 4]	25%
Research Paper	25%
Midterm Exam [a measurement of Student Learning Outcomes 4, 5, and 7]	25%
Final Exam [a measurement of Students Learning Outcomes 1 through 7]	25%

Grading Scale: A = 94 to 100; A minus = 90 to 93; B plus = 87 to 89; B = 83 to 86; B minus = 80 to 82; C plus = 77 to 79; C = 73 to 76; C minus = 70 to 72; D plus = 67 to 69; D = 63 to 66; D minus = 60 to 62; F = below 60.

Academic Honesty

All course requirements apply to each student, individually. Accordingly, academic honesty means meeting every course requirement on one's own, without assistance from anyone else. Any first violation of academic honesty results in no credit granted for the course requirement. The College administration is then so notified in writing. Any second violation of academic honesty results in a failing grade for the entire course. Again, the College administration is then so notified in writing.

Specific violations of academic honesty include, but are not limited to, turning in someone else's written work as one's own; plagiarism; giving or receiving aid on tests and examinations; and submitting false or misleading documents, including e-mail messages.

Topics Schedule (assignments are in **bold type**)

01	Introduction to Course Basic Poetic Terms of Analysis
02	<i>Understanding Poetry</i> and New Criticism
03	Evaluating Poetry Historical Literary Criticism
04	G. K. Chesterton
05	Advanced Poetic Terms of Analysis
06	Origins of Tragedy Thomas Becket
07	Test on <i>Poetics</i> [textbook] <i>Murder in the Cathedral</i> [textbook]
08	Continuation of previous class meeting
09	Continuation of previous class meeting

- 10 “The Purple Jewel”
- 11 Alfred the Great
- 12 **Test on *The Ballad of the White Horse* [textbook]**
- 13 Robert Frost
James Ulmer
P. G. Wodehouse
- 14 Review for Midterm Exam
- 15 **Midterm Exam**
- 16 J. R. R. Tolkien and *The Hobbit*
The Exeter Book
- 17 “The Monsters and the Critics”
The Homecoming of Beorhtnoth Beorhthelm’s Son
- 18 *The Fall of Arthur*
J. K. Rowling
- 19 Poetic Movements
- 20 Continuation of previous class meeting
- 21 Guidelines for Analyzing Poetry
- 22 **Test on *Imagist Poetry: An Anthology***
- 23 T. S. Eliot
- 24 e. e. Cummings
- 25 Poetry and Music
- 26 **Research Paper Due**
Continuation of previous class meeting
- 27 Continuation of previous class meeting
- 28 Poems Grouped by Subject
- 29 Poems Grouped by Genre
- 30 Review for Final Exam

Note: The Final Exam is *not* given early. Students who do not take the Final Exam when scheduled by the College may arrange a makeup date for the next semester.