

DEREE COLLEGE SYLLABUS FOR:

EN 2348 INTRODUCTION TO POETRY

3/0/3

(Updated Summer 2002)

PREREQUISITES: WP 1010 Introduction to Academic Writing
WP 1111 Integrated Academic Writing and Ethics
WP 1212 Academic Writing and Research

CATALOG

DESCRIPTION: Close analysis of a wide range of English and American poets and poems from all periods with a concentration on various aesthetic and thematic aspects of the genre.

RATIONALE: This course examines the genre of poetry in depth by focusing on a wide array of stylistic and thematic elements. Students will explore different instances of the development of American and English poetry as they become well versed in the theoretical discourse of the genre. This course is intended for English literature majors and non-majors alike.

OBJECTIVES: As a result of taking this course, the student should be able to:

1. Develop competency as a reader of poetry.
2. Define the nature of poetry, its differing origins, types and forms.
3. Define the elements of the genre.
4. Recognize by definition and by example the major types and forms of English and American poetry and survey significant period shifts in English and American poets.
5. Analyze individual poems and their themes/elements after being introduced to a range of critical approaches to analyzing and writing about poetry.
6. Identify the style, influences, and contributions of individual poets of the Anglo-Saxon tradition.

LEARNING

ACTIVITIES: Classes will be conducted in the form of lectures-cum-seminars, class size permitting. The instructor will present introductory information that will be followed by a selective textual analysis of the primary work under consideration. During this in-class analysis, students will be encouraged to voice their own responses.

STUDENT

EVALUATION: Students will be evaluated by their performance on a combination of essay examinations, oral reports, formal papers, study questions, quizzes, class participation and journal entries.

One option might be the following:

Study/response questions	20%
Midterm exam	30%
Final exam	30%
Short paper (5 pages)	20%

Instructors are encouraged to evaluate students using a variety of oral and written assignments, not just solely by in-class essay examinations.

**REQUIRED
MATERIAL:**

X. J. Kennedy & Dana Gioia. Introduction to Poetry. Longman, latest edition.

**RECOMMENDED
MATERIAL:**

Instructors should assign a selection of contemporary poems (21st century) using handouts and photocopies.
Poetry (journal)

WWW RESOURCES:

www.mesea.org (links to English and American poets)

**SOFTWARE
REQUIREMENTS:**

Word, PowerPoint

**COMMUNICATION
REQUIREMENTS:**

Students may be assigned to deliver oral reports and do PowerPoint presentations on aspects of the works under consideration. In these presentations, they are expected to use proper professional English and speech skills. With the exception of in-class tests, all written work must be word-processed on Word and adhere to MLA guidelines for manuscript format and documentation.

CONTENT OUTLINE:

1. Elements of Poetry
 - 1.1. Voice and Tone
 - 1.2. Figurative Language
 - 1.3. Imagery
 - 1.4. Symbol
 - 1.5. Sound & Rhythm
 - 1.6. Closed Form & Open Form
 - 1.7. Myth
2. Types of Poetry

- 2.1. Epic
- 2.2. Dramatic

- 2.3. Lyric
- 2.4. Elegiac
- 3. Periods
 - 3.1. Elizabethan Poetry & the Sonnet
 - 3.2. Metaphysical Poetry
 - 3.3. Neoclassical Poetry
 - 3.4. English Romantic & American Romantic Poetry
 - 3.5. Victorian Poetry & 19th-century American Poetry
 - 3.6. English and American Modernist Poetry
 - 3.7. Contemporary Poetry Written in English
- 4. Employing Critical Approaches to Poetry
 - 4.1 Reading Literary Theory and Poetry Together
 - 4.2. Formalist Criticism
 - 4.3. Historical Criticism
 - 4.4. Gender Criticism
 - 4.5. Sociological Criticism
 - 4.6. Mythological Criticism
 - 4.7. Deconstructionist Criticism
- 5. Writing about Poetry
 - 5.1. Paraphrasing & Analyzing Individual Poems
 - 5.2. Keeping a Journal
 - 5.3. Developing a Thesis
 - 5.4. Drafting and Revising
 - 5.5. Using Secondary Sources
 - 5.6. MLA Format and Documentation
 - 5.7. Avoiding Plagiarism
 - 5.8. Conventions of Literary Analysis