

Course Policies and Requirements for Modern Poetry

Professor:

Jack Peters

Course:

English 4420, Section 001
125 Env, 2:00-3:20 p.m. MW

Texts:

Norton Anthology of Modern and Contemporary Poetry (Vol. 1)

Course Packet (on Canvas)

Office:

115 Auditorium

Office Telephone:

565-2679

Office Hours:

1:00 p. m.-2:00 p. m. MW, by appointment,
or pretty much anytime I'm in my office

E-mail:

jgpeters@unt.edu

Course Requirements:

The requirements for this course are as follows: the completion of 1 term paper and 3 exams (a final exam and 2 other exams). The exams and the term paper will each be worth 25% of your final grade. If you fail to turn in the term paper or take an exam, you will likely fail for the course.

Course Subject Matter:

This course will be on modern poetry beginning with Walt Whitman and Emily Dickinson and going through the Modernist period and a little beyond. We will be discussing the literary movements relevant to the poetry, the historical and cultural contexts, and focusing heavily on the close reading of the poetry.

Course Policies:

Late Term Papers: I expect term papers to be turned in on the day they are due; nevertheless, you have a grace period for the term paper. The date is in the Daily Schedule. If you turn in the paper *before* the end of the grace period, there is no penalty. If *for any reason* it comes in *any time* after the grace period ends (even a minute or two), I'll deduct 6% off the grade for the term paper. In addition, I'll deduct 6% for each day thereafter that your paper is not turned in. Term papers should be turned in via Canvas, unless there is some compelling reason why you can't turn your paper in electronically. The only exception to this late term paper policy is in the extremely rare case when it is impossible, because of excused absences, to turn in the term paper on the due date or during the grace period. Otherwise, there are no extensions beyond the grace period. If your term paper is late for an extended period, I may limit the penalty somewhat.

Grading Criteria for Term Papers: The primary criteria for grading term papers will be content and presentation. I weigh the content somewhat more heavily than the presentation, but both are important, and I will expect you to be responsible for the rules of grammar, punctuation, and usage you learned in Freshman English. The term papers should be about 7-8 pages long, but a little more or less doesn't matter to me. Just make sure you adequately cover the material if it's short or that there isn't unnecessary information if it's long. I do not scale paper grades.

Accommodations: In accordance with the terms and spirit of the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504, Rehabilitation Act, I cooperate with the Office of Disability Accommodation to make reasonable accommodations for you if you qualify as a student with disabilities. Please register with ODA, and present your written request to me by about the 4th class day.

Attendance: While you are expected to attend all classes, it is important for all of us to be mindful of the health and safety of everyone in our community, especially given concerns about COVID-19. Please contact me if you are unable to attend class because you are ill, or unable to attend class due to a related issue regarding COVID-19. It is important that you

communicate with me prior to being absent so I may make a decision about accommodating your request to be excused from class. If you are experiencing any symptoms of COVID-19 (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html>), please seek medical attention from the Student Health and Wellness Center (940-565-2333 or ask SHWC@unt.edu) or your health care provider prior to coming to campus. UNT also requires you to contact the UNT COVID Hotline at 844-366-5892 or COVID@unt.edu for guidance on actions to take due to symptoms, pending or positive test results, or potential exposure. While attendance is an important part of succeeding in this class, your own health, and those of others in the community, is more important.

Class Materials for Remote Instruction: The UNT fall schedule requires this course to have fully remote instruction beginning November 28th. Additional remote instruction may be necessary if community health conditions change or you need to self-isolate or quarantine due to COVID-19. Students will need access to a computer to participate in fully remote portions of the class. Information on how to be successful in a remote learning environment can be found at <https://online.unt.edu/learn>.

Face Coverings: Face coverings are required in all UNT facilities. Students are expected to wear face coverings during this class. If you are unable to wear a face covering due to a disability, please contact the Office of Disability Access to request an accommodation. UNT face covering requirements are subject to change due to community health guidelines. I will communicate any changes.

Texts, Essays, Exams, Grades, Etc.:

Texts and Readings: The texts should be on sale at the student bookstore. You are welcome to use other editions of the book, although the page numbering will likely differ and some of the material may also be different. I have also placed a copy of the books on two-hour reserve in the library in case you don't have immediate access to the books. You should read ahead for any heavier reading periods.

Exams: The exams will likely be made up of 10 short-answer questions that will demonstrate your understanding of the material we have covered to that point. The final exam may also 1 essay question that you will choose from several alternatives in addition to the 10 short-answer questions. The essay question would be intended to demonstrate your ability to apply what you have learned in different contexts from those we discussed in class. If necessary, I scale exam grades. I do not give early or late exams except in unusual circumstances..

Final Grades: Your final class grade will be calculated based on the percentages noted earlier. I use standard percentages for grades (0% - 59.4% = F; 59.5% - 69.4% = D; 69.5% - 79.4% = C; 79.5% - 89.4% = B; 89.5% - 100% = A). If necessary, I scale final grades, either by lowering the standards for a single grade or multiple grades or by scaling the entire class, depending on the type of scale required in a particular situation. There are no extra credit assignments in this course.

Plagiarism and Cheating:

Finally, if you plagiarize the term paper or cheat on an exam, you will receive the maximum penalty allowed to me, and I'll report you to university standards for disciplinary action, regardless of your past performance or class standing.

Daily Schedule (Tentative)

- January 11: Introduction to Course
- January 13: William Wordsworth; Samuel Taylor Coleridge (course packet)
- January 18: No Class; Martin Luther King holiday
- January 20: Walt Whitman
- January 25: Walt Whitman
- January 27: Emily Dickinson
- February 1: Emily Dickinson; Traditional Poets
- February 3: Thomas Hardy
- February 8: Gerard Manley Hopkins
- February 10: William Butler Yeats
- February 15: William Butler Yeats
- February 17: Exam #1 (to be taken on-line via Canvas)
- February 22: Robert Frost
- February 24: Robert Frost
- March 1: Wallace Stevens
- March 3: Wallace Stevens
- March 8: William Carlos Williams
- March 10: Imagism; World War I poets
- March 15: World War I poets
- March 17: Exam #2, Mid-Term Exam (to be taken on-line via Canvas)
- March 22: Ezra Pound; Informal proposal due
- March 24: Ezra Pound
- March 29: Marianne Moore; T. S. Eliot
- March 31: T. S. Eliot
- April 5: T. S. Eliot; Last day to turn in informal proposal
- April 7: Harlem Renaissance

- April 12: Harlem Renaissance
- April 14: Philip Larkin, Theodore Roethke; Dylan Thomas
- April 19: W. H. Auden
- April 21: W. H. Auden; Course conclusion; Essay due
- April 26: Exam #3, Final Exam from 1:30 p.m. until 3:30 p.m (to be taken on-line via Canvas); Grace Period for Essay Ends at 1:00 p.m. Sharp