

English 2230FG

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Winter 2016
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Class times:

Tuesday, 9:30-10:30
Thursday, 8:30-10:30

Calendar Description: English 2230F/G Studies in Poetics

An introduction to important issues and concepts in the theory and analysis of poetry from different periods.

Prerequisites: English 1020 or English 1027 and 1028, or permission of the instructor.

Course Objectives (a selection)

Among other things, by the end of the course the successful student will be able to:

1. Understand and paraphrase a passage of poetry, however dense.
2. Correctly scan passages of verse in a wide variety of meters.
3. Recognize a variety of the rhetorical figures frequently used in poetry.
4. Articulate the history of ideas on what poetry is, and how it should be discussed.
5. Identify a wide variety of poetic forms and genres, and explain how poets use, manipulate, extend and combine these forms and genres.
6. Analyse in well-written prose how the elements of a poem work together to achieve a cohesive effect.
7. Evaluate the overall effectiveness of an individual poem.
8. Perform poetry orally, with proper attention to its sense and sound.

Texts

Adams, Stephen. Poetic Designs. Peterborough: Broadview, 1997.

Custom Coursepack of Readings. (Available through the UWO bookstore)

A web-posted package of poetry (on Owl Sakai), to be printed out by the student.

[I assume that students already have one of

Holman, C. Hugh and William Harmon. A Handbook to Literature. New York: Macmillan, any edition.

or

Abrams, M.H. A Glossary of Literary Terms. New York: Harcourt Brace, any edition.]

Evaluation

Assignments, quizzes and tests	35%
In-class Poetry Analyses	20%
Essay (Due: Mon, Apr. 7)	20%
Final Exam	<u>25%</u>
	100%

Composition option. (See attached sheet)

Note: For missed tests and missed/late assignments worth 5% or more, the student must meet with an academic advisor to provide documentation for accommodation. For late exercises worth less than 10%, there will be a deduction of 2% per day, with no accommodation. For students who miss a quiz because of illness, there will be a makeup day scheduled late in the semester.

You must pass both the term work and the final exam to pass the course.

Outline of Classes*

(cc) means the reading is found in the *Custom Coursepack*

Week of Jan. 4

Introduction

What is poetry? What is poetic theory? What is poetic analysis?

History of poetic analysis.

Preliminary skills and tools for poetic analysis:

The sense of a poem

Diction: Dickinson, "There is no Frigate Like a Book", Edwin Arlington Robinson, "Richard Cory"

Using the *OED*

Other reference tools

Reading: Margaret Ferguson, "Poetic Syntax" (cc)

Week of Jan. 11

Reading: Adams, Chapter 1; M.H. Abrams, "Orientation of Critical Theories" (cc)
Annotation Exercise (**to be submitted: Thurs. Jan. 21**)

Donne, "Sweetest love, I do not go"

The value and danger of paraphrase

Paraphrase exercise (**to be submitted: Thurs. Jan. 28**)

The basics of prosody: Roots in Song

A sampling of hymns and folk songs in common meter, long meter and short meter.

[See document on 'Owl Sakai': "Common Meter"]

Week of Jan. 18

Iambic tetrameter. Trochaic, anapestic and dactylic meters.

Byron, "She walks in beauty"

Tolkien, selections from *The Lord of the Rings*

Housman, "On Wenlock Edge", "Loveliest of Trees"

Charles Wolfe, "The Burial of Sir John Moore" (and the parody "Not a sou had he got" by Thomas Ingoldsby)

Felicia Hemans, "Casabianca"

Secondary Reading: A review of Catherine Robson, *Heart Beats: everyday life and the memorized poem*, at <http://www.poetryfoundation.org/poetrymagazine/article/249542>, and then pp. 113-18 from the book itself. (Available online through the [Weldon Library](http://lib.myilibrary.com.proxy1.lib.uwo.ca/Open.aspx?id=386240) <http://lib.myilibrary.com.proxy1.lib.uwo.ca/Open.aspx?id=386240>.)

Annotation Exercise Due Thurs. Jan. 21

Week of Jan. 25

Iambic Pentameter

Anna L. Barbauld, "Washing Day",

The performance of poetry

Reading: Peter Hall's *Shakespeare's Advice to the Players*, pp. 24-42 (cc)

Reading: Adams, Chapter 2

Rhyme, Meters and Forms

Pentameter couplets: Dryden, "To the Memory of Mr. Oldham", Frost, "A Brook in the City"

Byron, *Don Juan*, Canto 1, stanzas 1-38.

Memorization Exercise Tues. Jan. 26

Paraphrase exercise Thurs. Jan. 28

Week of Feb. 1

Burns, "To a Mountain-Daisy"

John Crowe Ransom, "Bells for John Whiteside's Daughter"

Reading: W.K. Wimsatt, "One Relation of Rhyme to Reason" (cc)

First Scansion quiz, Thurs. Feb. 4

Week of Feb. 8

The sonnet: Shakespeare, Sonnet 19: "Devouring Time",
Milton, "How soon hath time"

Reading: Adams, Chapter 3,

Reading: Lisa M. Steinman, *Invitation to Poetry*, pp. 59-87 [on reserve at Brescia Library]

Lyric Poetry

Bridges, "Winter Nightfall"

Edward Thomas, "The Unknown Bird"

Thurs. Feb. 11, In-class Poetry Analysis #1

Feb. 15-19 Reading Week**Week of Feb. 22**

Reading: Jonathan Culler, "Apostrophe" from *The Pursuit of Signs* (cc)

Narrative Poetry

D.C. Scott, "On the Way to the Mission"; Byron, "The Prisoner of Chillon"

Second Scansion quiz, Tues. Feb. 23

Week of Feb. 29

Dramatic Poetry and the question of voice

Robert Frost, "A Servant to Servants"

Robert Browning, "Fra Lippo Lippi"

Tone and diction.

Reading: Lisa M. Steinman, *Invitation to Poetry*, ch. 5, "The Form of the Voice: Tone and Diction" [on reserve at Brescia Library]

Week of March 7

Rhetorical Analysis/Figures of Speech

Tolkien, selections from *The Lord of the Rings*

Milton, "On Shakespeare", Christina Rossetti, "No thing is great",

Herbert, "Sin's Round"

Sidney, "What may Words Say" (Sonnet 35 of *Astrophil and Stella*), C. Rossetti, "Mirage"

Reading: Adams, Chapter 4 (to p. 132)

Thurs. March 11 In-class Poetry Analysis #2

Week of March 14

Diction and Non-figurative imagery

Tennyson, "Calm is the morn" and "Tonight the winds" (from *In Memoriam*)

Browning, "Meeting at Night"

Eliot, "Preludes"

Tues. March 15: Statement of Intent and Preliminary Bibliography for Essay due

Week of March 21

Reading: Adams, Chapter 4 (pp. 132 to 147)

Metaphor and simile

Campion, "There is a Garden in her Face", Richard Wilbur, "A Simile for her Smile"
(read also the brief commentary at

[https://www.google.ca/search?q="A+Simile+for+her+Smile"&ie=utf-8&oe=utf-8&gws_rd=cr&ei=u1VgVv-lJMH2-AGqz5aYCQ](https://www.google.ca/search?q=)

Wordsworth "To the Daisy"

Test on Coursepack, Reserve, and Adams Readings, Thurs. March 24

Week of March 28

Reading: George Lakoff & Mark Turner, "Life, Death and Time" from *More than Cool Reason*. (cc)

Personification, Allegory and Symbolism

Anne Finch, "Life's Progress"

W.E. Henley, "Madam Life"

Reading: Adams, Chapt. 5;

Free Verse

Whitman, "To a Locomotive in Winter"

Thurs., March 31, In-class poetry analysis #3

Tues. Apr. 5

Free Verse (cont.)

Pound, "The River-Merchant's Wife"

Plath, "Black Rook in Rainy Weather"

Cummings, "In Just-"

Reading: Hartman, "Counterpoint" (cc)

Essay Due April 5 (at beginning of class)

*Changes may be made to the order of works studied, and some short works may be added to the list. The poems listed above will be our principal examples for a variety of poetic elements and techniques; however, in class I will also draw freely on other examples.

BRESCIA UNIVERSITY COLLEGE ACADEMIC POLICIES AND REGULATIONS

1. POLICY REGARDING MAKEUP EXAMS AND EXTENSIONS OF DEADLINES

When a student requests academic accommodation (e.g., extension of a deadline, a makeup exam) for work representing 10% or more of the student's overall grade in the course, it is the responsibility of the student to provide acceptable documentation to support a medical or compassionate claim. All such requests for academic accommodation **must** be made through an Academic Advisor and include supporting documentation. Academic accommodation on medical grounds will be granted only if the documentation indicates that the onset, duration and severity of the illness are such that the student could not reasonably be expected to complete her academic responsibilities. Appropriate academic accommodation will be determined by the Dean's Office in consultation with the student's instructor(s). Please note that personal commitments (e.g., vacation flight bookings, work schedule) which conflict with a scheduled test, exam or course requirement are not grounds for academic accommodation.

A UWO Student Medical Certificate (SMC) is **required** if a student is seeking academic accommodation on medical grounds. This documentation should be obtained at the time of the initial consultation with the physician/nurse practitioner or walk-in clinic. A SMC can be downloaded under the Medical Documentation heading of the following website: <https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/index.cfm> . If it is not possible to have an SMC completed by the attending physician/nurse practitioner, the student must request documentation sufficient to demonstrate that her ability to meet academic responsibilities was seriously affected. Please note that under University Senate regulations documentation stating simply that the student “was seen for a medical reason” or “was ill” is **not** adequate to support a request for academic accommodation. All documentation is to be submitted to an Academic Advisor.

Whenever possible, requests for academic accommodation should be initiated in advance of due dates, examination dates, etc. Students must follow up with their professors and Academic Advisor in a timely manner.

The full statement of University policy regarding extensions of deadlines or makeup exams can be found at <http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2013/pg117.html>

2. ACADEMIC CONCERNS

If you feel that you have a medical or personal problem that is interfering with your work, contact your instructor and Academic Advisor as soon as possible. Problems may then be documented and possible arrangements to assist you can be discussed at the time of occurrence rather than on a retroactive basis. Retroactive requests for academic accommodation on medical or compassionate grounds may not be considered.

If you think that you are too far behind to catch up or that your work load is not manageable, you should consult an Academic Advisor. If you consider reducing your workload by dropping one or more courses, this must be done by the appropriate deadlines (refer to the Registrar's website, www.registrar.uwo.ca, for official dates). You should consult with the course instructor and the Academic Advisor who can help you consider alternatives to dropping one or more courses. *Note that dropping a course may affect OSAP eligibility and/or Entrance Scholarship eligibility.*

The Dean may refuse permission to write the final examination in a course if the student has failed to maintain satisfactory academic standing throughout the year or for too frequent absence from the class or laboratory.

3. ABSENCES

Short Absences: If you miss a class due to a minor illness or other problems, check your course outline for information regarding attendance requirements and make sure you are not missing a test or assignment. Cover any readings and arrange to borrow notes from a classmate. Contact the course instructor if you have any questions.

Extended Absences: If you have an extended absence, you should contact the course instructor and an Academic Advisor. Your course instructor and Academic Advisor can discuss ways for you to catch up on missed work and arrange academic accommodations, if appropriate.

4. POLICY ON CHEATING & ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

Students are responsible for understanding the nature of and avoiding the occurrence of plagiarism and other academic offences. Students are urged to read the section on Scholastic Offences in the Academic Calendar. Note that such offences include plagiarism, cheating on an examination, submitting false or fraudulent assignments or credentials, impersonating a candidate, or submitting for credit in any course without the knowledge and approval of the instructor to whom it is submitted, any academic work for which credit has previously been obtained or is being sought in another course in the University or elsewhere. Students are advised to consult the section on Academic Misconduct in the Western Academic Calendar.

If you are in doubt about whether what you are doing is inappropriate or not, consult your instructor, the Student Services Centre, or the Registrar. A claim that "you didn't know it was wrong" is not accepted as an excuse.

The penalties for a student guilty of a scholastic offence (including plagiarism) include refusal of a passing grade in the assignment, refusal of a passing grade in the course, suspension from the University, and expulsion from the University.

Plagiarism:

Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea or a passage from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is a major academic offence (see Scholastic Offence Policy in the Western Academic Calendar).

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com.

Computer-marked Tests/exams:

Computer-marked multiple-choice tests and/or exams may be subject to submission for similarity review by software that will check for unusual coincidences in answer patterns that may indicate cheating. Software currently in use to score computer-marked multiple-choice tests and exams performs a similarity review as part of standard exam analysis.

5. PROCEDURES FOR APPEALING ACADEMIC EVALUATIONS

All appeals of a grade must be directed first to the course instructor. If the student is not satisfied with the decision of the course instructor, a written appeal signed by the student must be sent to the Department Chair. If the response of the department is considered unsatisfactory to the student, she may then submit a signed, written appeal to the Office of the Dean. Only after receiving a final decision from the Dean may a student appeal to the Senate Review Board Academic. A Guide to Appeals is available from the Ombudsperson's Office, or you can consult an Academic Advisor. Students are advised to consult the section on Academic Rights and Responsibilities in the Western Academic Calendar.

6. PREREQUISITES AND ANTIREQUISITES

Unless you have either the prerequisites for a course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you will be removed from the course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

Similarly, you will also be deleted from a class list if you have previously taken an antirequisite course unless this has the approval of the Dean. These decisions may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course because you have taken an antirequisite course.

7. SUPPORT SERVICES

The Brescia University College Registrar's website, with a link to Academic Advisors, is at http://www.brescia.uwo.ca/academics/registrar_services/index.html . The Western Registrar's website is at <http://www.registrar.uwo.ca/index.cfm> . The website for the Student Development Centre at Western is at <http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/> . Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health @ Western <http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/> for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

Portions of this document were taken from the Academic Calendar, the Handbook of Academic and Scholarship Policy and the Academic Handbook of Senate Regulations. This document is a summary of relevant regulations and does not supersede the academic policies and regulations of the Senate of the University of Western Ontario.

