

English 205 WR-00C: Poetry

Spring 2008

Oxford College of Emory University

Dr. Clark Lemons

Office: Few 104: M-F 2:30-3:30

Objectives

- Through intensive study of poems, to improve the ability to analyze and appreciate this particular art form
- Through writing about poetry, to understand more fully the strengths and weaknesses of your own writing, to improve your writing, and to come to greater understanding of the subject of your writing
- Through conversation about poems, to practice the verbal art of communicating ideas with the end of greater learning from others, from your instructor, and from yourself
- Through study of texts alone and in class, to learn the major poetic techniques, and something about the work of major poets, types and styles of poetry

Guidelines

1. Each absence, after the first two, results in one point off your final average. You do not need permission to take the first two absences; use them for illness or whatever you believe important. If you are absent/late, it is your responsibility to learn what you missed.

2. The final exam will be an in-class essay, graded for form as well as content. For the essay you will be given poems you will not have seen before to write about.

3. The five papers should be 800-850 words in length, or 3+ pages each. Workshop Day will precede the due date for the early papers. Complete rough drafts are due on Workshop Day, which will be a class or a part of a class when we can work on papers together. Late papers will be penalized one letter grade per 24 hours, beginning at the start of class on the due date. After the first paper is returned to you, you should make an appointment for an individual conference with me so that we can see how you are doing; thereafter conferences are optional.

4. Unannounced quizzes will often begin the class. The quizzes will not be difficult and will relate to the work of that day; they can't be taken late or made up. Tardiness will mean that you miss the opportunity to take a quiz.

5. The "discussion" part of your grade means you must be willing to speak some in class and, of course, to listen. Class is basically discussion, but each of you will be asked to prepare and present a poem, leading part of the class for that day. The daily routine will normally consist of working through the chapters of the text.

6. Feel free to set up an appointment with me to discuss your papers or work in the class. My daily office hours are posted but I am available for other times too..

7. Keep your syllabus handy and follow it. If there are any changes, the changes will be to your advantage and announced in class and on the Learnlink conference. The syllabus and other important information will be posted on the conference. (Oxford College>Oxford Classes>English>205 Lemons)

Grading Policy

Final 20%, Papers (6) 60%, Discussion-Quizzes-Homework 20%.

(Keep track of your own grades so you will know how you are doing. I do not average grades until after the final exam. I will drop the lowest one or two quiz grades.)

English 205: Poetry Schedule of Assignments

Jan	16	Introduction		to the same format we've been using.
	18	Chapt. 1		
	23	Chapt. 1		7 Chapt. 6, etc.
	25	Workshop		17
	28	Paper 1 due		19
	30	Chapt. 2		21
Feb	1	Chapt. 2		24
	4	Chapt 3		26
	6	Workshop		28
	8	Paper 2 Due	April	2
	11	Chapt. 3		4
	13	Chapt. 3		7
	15	Chapt 4		11
	18	Chapt 4		14
	20	Workshop		16
	22	Paper 3 Due		18
	25	Chapt. 4		21
	27	Chapt 5		23
	29	Chapt 5		24 Term Paper due, 4 pm (Thursday) at my office
Mar	3	Chapt 5		
	5	At this point we will see where we are and create the rest of the assignment list according		25
				28
			May	7 Final Exam 2-5pm

Papers: papers will be due approximately every two weeks. You are encouraged to meet with me before a paper is due or after it has been returned. You will need The Practical English Handbook or any other MLA (Modern Language Association) -based Handbook as a reference for your writing. The Term paper (paper 6) is a bit longer and has special requirements (see handout). On days papers are due the reading assignment will be to catch up with the poems in the chapter just studied.

Readings: We will spend more time on some chapters than on others, depending primarily on your interest; particular page numbers in the chapters will be announced, but reading the whole chapter once and then reviewing specific pages the night before class is a good way to prepare. I suggest you read every assignment twice before class—and the difficult poems several times..