

English 205
Fall 2006
MWF 11:45-12:35
L204A

Dr. Adriane Ivey
Office: Language 202
Office Hours: MWF 2-4 and by
appointment
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Required Texts: *The Norton Anthology of Poetry*, 4th ed. (Ferguson et al, 1996)

Suggested Texts: *A Handbook to Literature* (Holman and Harmon)
The MLA Handbook

Objectives: This course is designed to help you practice and develop your skills in reading, understanding, and writing about poetry. You will be introduced to new ways of reading and writing about literature. You will learn to understand poetry in the context of literary concepts, movements, and periods, and to write about the poetry in clear, effective prose. Your writing will discuss the ways poets use sound and symbolism to convey meaning. We will discuss how all poetry is a response to its particular historical context, and how all great poetry also transcends that context.

Attendance: Because understanding the poetry we read is reliant upon participation in active discussions, attendance is an important aspect of this class. **Therefore you will be allowed a maximum of three absences.** Your final grade will drop three points for each absence after the third. I do not distinguish between excused and unexcused absences.

Deadlines for Assignments: Assignments are due in class on the date specified on the itinerary. Late assignments will drop five points for every day they are late.

Plagiarism: All work submitted in this course must be your own and be written exclusively for this course. The use of sources (ideas, quotations, paraphrases) must be properly documented using MLA format. Remember that you are to adhere to the Oxford College Honor Code and that your signature on any assignment submitted in this class indicates that you have neither given nor received unauthorized information on the work. You can find a copy of the Honor Code in the Oxford Catalog. Remember that it is your responsibility to understand the Code and what constitutes plagiarism.

Requirements and Grading: All work will be graded and every assignment will count towards the final grade. I grade on a plus/minus scale. Your final grade for this course will be figured as follows:

| | | | |
|-----|--|-----|--------------|
| 20% | Four 2-3 page papers on poetry | 20% | Midterm Exam |
| 40% | 2 6-8 page papers on poetry (20% each) | 20% | Final Exam |

Short Papers: These are 2-3 page analyses of a single poem. You must stay within the page limit and USE NO OTHER SOURCES. This means you should not quote another source or even consult any sources to understand the poem. These are to give you practice analyzing the poems ON YOUR OWN.

Long Papers: These are 6-8 page research papers on the poetry. You will write on multiple poems, either by the same author or by different authors. For these papers, you should consult reliable academic sources and cite them in your writing.

Other Things to Know:

I do not allow cell phones in class. Make sure your phone is turned off or that you leave it at home. If your phone goes off in class, you will be asked to leave and will be considered absent for the day.

Throw nothing away.

If I am late and there is no notice at the door, you should wait fifteen minutes before leaving. Prepare the next day's assignments for the next meeting.

I reserve the right to amend or modify anything on this statement by means of future hand-outs.

Readings and Assignments

All assignments must be read for class on the day they are listed.

| | |
|----------------|--|
| M 9/11 | Milton |
| W 9/13 | Pope |
| F 9/15 | Gray |
| M 9/18 | Blake |
| W 9/20 | Wordsworth; Coleridge |
| F 9/22 | Shelley |
| M 9/25 | Keats |
| W 9/27 | Tennyson |
| F 9/29 | Browning |
| M 10/2 | Arnold |
| W 10/4 | Whitman |
| F 10/6 | Dickinson |
| M 10/9 | <u>Mid-semester Break</u> |
| W 10/11 | MIDTERM EXAM |
| F 10/13 | Yeats |
| M 10/16 | Hardy; Hopkins |
| W 10/18 | Dunbar; Johnson; Paper #1 Draft due |
| F 10/20 | Robinson |
| M 10/23 | Masters; Paper #1 due |
| W 10/25 | War Poets |
| F 10/27 | Millay |
| M 10/30 | Millay; Harlem Renaissance |
| W 11/1 | Harlem Renaissance |
| F 11/3 | Auden; Thomas |
| M 11/6 | Brooks; Hayden |
| W 11/8 | Baraka; Giovanni |

Short Paper (RA) Assignments

You will have two short paper assignments due before Fall Break (turned in by Friday, October 6) and two assignments due before the last day of class (turned in by Friday, December 8). You can choose any two days on which to turn in your papers, and your papers will be on any poem assigned for the days you choose. These papers are 2-3 pages long and should represent YOUR OWN reading of ONE poem. You must have a clear thesis and complete argument that uses ample evidence from the poem itself to prove your main point. You must let me know in class on Monday, September 11 which days you plan to turn in your two papers.

Long Paper Assignments

You will write two long papers (6-8 pages) on multiple poems; due dates are below. For these papers, you can choose to write on multiple poems by one poet, on one long poem by one poet, or on multiple poems by two poets in comparison. Your thesis will make an argument about these poems together as a group. You might analyze a poet's use of a particular theme, symbol, or device in multiple works or you can discuss how two poets use similar themes, symbols, or devices. For these papers, you should do some research, though there is no minimum amount you must do. One source will be plenty, if you use it well. We will discuss these assignments as their due dates near.

Paper 1, draft 1: due Wednesday, October 18

Paper 1, final: due Monday, October 23

Paper 2, draft 1: due Monday, November 20

Paper 2, final: due Friday, December 1

Milton

"L' Allegro"
"Il Penseroso"
"How Soon Hath Time"
"I Did But Prompt the Age"
"When I Consider How My Light Is Spent"
"Methought I Saw"

Pope

"The Rape of the Lock" (547)

Gray

"Ode (On the Death of a Favorite Cat)" (608)
"Elegy Written in a country Churchyard" (609)

Blake

From *Songs of Innocence*
"Introduction"
"The Lamb"
"Holy Thursday"
"Divine Image"
"Little Black Boy"
"Chimney Sweeper" (on learnlink)
From *Songs of Experience*
"Introduction"
"Divine Image"
"Holy Thursday"
"The Tyger"
"London"
"Chimney Sweeper" (on learnlink)

Wordsworth

"The Tables Turned"
"Tintern Abbey"
"The Prelude: Book I"
"It is a Beauteous Evening"
"London, 1802"
"Nuns Fret Not"
"My Heart Leaps Up"
"Ode: Intimations of Immortality"
"The World is Too Much With Us"
"Mutability"

Coleridge

"Frost At Midnight"

Shelley

"To Wordsworth"
"Mutability"
"Ozymandias"
"Ode to the West Wind"
"To A Skylark"
"Adonais"

Keats

"On First Looking Into Chapman's Homer"
"When I Have Fears"
"La Belle Dame Sans Merci"
"Ode to a Nightingale"
"Ode on Melancholy"
"Ode On a Grecian Urn"
"Bright Star"

Tennyson

"Lady of Shalott"
"Ulysses"
from *In Memoriam* (on learnlink)

Browning

"My Last Duchess"
"The Bishop Orders His Tomb at St. Praxed's Church"
"Andrea del Sarto"
"Two in the Campagna"

Arnold

"Dover Beach"
"Thyrsis"

Whitman

all from "Song of Myself"
"Crossing Brooklyn Ferry"
"Out of the Cradle Endlessly Rocking"

Dickinson

112 (67)
124 (216) both
202 (185)
314 (254)
320 (258)
340 (280)
372 (341)
479 (712)
591 (465)
620 (435)
1263 (1129)
1793 (1732)