CREATIVE WRITING WORKSHOP: POETRY
ENGLISH 142

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Mayterm 2010    Office phone: x7174

TEXTS


A complete book of poems by a contemporary writer of your choice.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Our purpose is to experiment with writing poems and with reading them aloud. In the process I hope you become better writers—and readers—of poetry. By engaging in poetry writing you can learn about the craft, and will probably learn parts of the craft itself. Chances are you will also learn a few things about yourself.

In official terms, this course fulfills the General Education component labeled Competent and Compassionate Action: Productions and Presentations. It will provide you with a substantial opportunity for creative production and presentation. Some students may be selected to present their work alongside a visiting professional writer in a public reading; others may take part in an open-microphone reading in the community; still others may have their work published in the student literary magazine, the Phoenix, or in other, off-campus publications. All students will be required to locate or to organize some form of public presentation of their own work.

REQUIREMENTS

1. Class Attendance—Come early, come often! Your contributions in responding to one another’s work are a crucial part of this class.

2. Literary Events—Please attend at least two readings outside of our designated class time.

2. Readings—as assigned.

3. Quizzes—over readings.

4. Daily Assignments—drafting of poems, and responses to poems in contemporary journals.

5. Review—4-6 pp, typed, of a book of poems by a contemporary writer of your choice.
6. Public Presentation—of your own poetry

7. Poetry Portfolio—of at least 250 lines, including at least one traditional sonnet and 14 lines of blank verse.

8. Final Exam—over material from our textbook.

GRADING

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NB: Late work will be docked; plagiarized work of any kind is grounds for flunking the course. You may find it helpful to study the college plagiarism policy at: www.westmont.edu/_academics/pages/provost/curriculum/plagiarism

SCHEDULE

TBA