

POETRY WRITING 304 FRI 2-4:30 Molly Bendall, SPRING 2018

Objectives: To learn and exercise skills in poetry writing and to study and analyze many examples of poems by well-known poets. Also to develop and hone critical skills in a workshop format.

Jan 12 - Introduction about poems and terminology. And in class exercise. Discuss class Requirements and texts.

Jan 19-**POEM DUE** (on a childhood memory) Discuss Reading Assignment #1 handout, Plus poems from *Starshine Road* and textures of language, voice, tone, and imagery.

Jan 26 Workshop with CRITIQUES DUE

Feb 2- Cont. Workshop and In CLASS exercise.

Feb 9-- Discuss Reading Assignment #2. (Forms—sestinas, villanelles, pantoums abcedarians,) We will also discuss meter and scansion and issues with form and content.

Feb 16--**POEMS DUE** (2 forms) Plus Reading Assignment #3 ---
“Misbehaving” poems. We will discuss the idea of “spontaneity” and surrealism handout --with Tate, O’Hara, Ruefle, Madievsky.

Feb 23 -- Workshop with CRITIQUES DUE of forms poems

Mar 2— **POEM DUE** (misbehaving poems) cont. workshop.

Mar 9 - Workshop. Plus discuss poems in *Starshine Road* Reading Assignment #4.

Mar 16-- SPRING BREAK

Mar 23 Reading Assignment # 5 Incantatory poems by Neruda, Breton, Duncan, Lauterbach, Smith and Others.
PLUS *Starshine Road* by Lauren Henley. REQUIRED.

Mar 30 CLASS VISIT by Lauren Henley, REQUIRED WITH BOOK. **POEM DUE** (Incantatory poem)

April 6 Workshop critiques due.

April 13- Cont. Workshop with CRITIQUES DUE.

April 20— And discuss poems Reading Ass. #6 Ekphrastic Poems
In class exercise. Poems and approaches. Handout with Larry Levis, Natasha
Trethewey, and Robin Coste Lewis.

April 27—READ **FINAL POEM DUE** & PORTFOLIOS DUE. _____

Reading Assignment #1—In Mayes handbook read Chapters 2 &3, and Philip Levine’s
“Starlight” p. 288, Theodore Roethke’s “My Papa’s Waltz” p. 253, plus handout with Lynn
Emanuel, Li-Young Lee, Alice Notley.

Reading Assignment #2 In Mayes Handbook read Chapters 6, 7, & 8. And Bishop’s
“Sestina” p.334, Roethke’s “The Waking” p. 337, Dylan Thomas’ “Do Not Go Gentle...”
. plus handout with Carolyn Beard Whitlow, Catherine Bowman, David Trinidad, and Natalie
Diaz.

Reading Assignment #3 Handout with Frank O’Hara, James Tate, Harryette Mullen, and Mary
Ruefle, and other misbehaving poems.

Reading Assignment #4 *Starshine Road* by Lauren Henley.

Reading Assignment #5- In Mayes handbook Pablo Neruda’s “Ode to a Watch..” p.
401, “Night Chant” Navaho p. 198, Andre Breton “Free Union” p. 438. Robert Duncan “My
Mother would be a Falconess” pg. Plus handout of Ann Lauterbach, and Matthew Dickman.
And Carmen Jimenez Smith.

Reading Assignment #6 Ekphrastic poems. Poems on visual art.

CLASS POLICIES AND GRADING CRITERIA

- 6 + poems due.+ substantial revisions
- All work must be typed with guidelines followed.
- All work must be handed in ON TIME with HARD COPIES MADE.
- MORE THAN 1 ABSENCE May LOWER YOUR GRADE since you are graded on Participation.
- Participation in class discussions is mandatory.
- MUST HAVE THE TEXTS FROM WHICH WE ARE READING IN CLASS.
- If you are absent during a discussion of the reading, write up a page response.REQUIRED.
- Written critiques and responses to reading are REQUIRED.
- Substantial revisions due with final portfolio

DO NOT SEND poems or written work over e-mail, hand in hard copy.

3 areas for grading-

1. 33% Participation, and preparedness. 5 Points deducted for Not being prepared
2. 33% Responses and Critiques,
3. 33% Writing assignments.

TEXTS REQUIRED

1. *Field Guide to Poetry* Frances Mayes
2. *Starshine Road* by Lauren Henley

Office hours Mon & Wed 2-3pm.

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