

**Bergen Community College
Division of Humanities**

English Department

Course Syllabus

ENG 207: Creative Writing Workshop - Poetry

Course Description:

This is a course in which students write poetry using both lyric and narrative styles. The course will focus on a study of contemporary poetry, but students will also gain an understanding of traditional poetic forms such as the sonnet, villanelle, sestina, ode, and elegy. In addition to producing a portfolio of original poems, students will read and discuss each other's work as well as that of published authors.

Credits: 3; Lecture 3

Prerequisite: ENG-101 Composition I

Corequisite: None

Student Learning Objectives:

As a result of meeting the requirements in this course, you will be able to:

1. Identify the special genre demands of poetry by reading and discussing the work of published poets.
2. Use the elements of craft and style to write original poems.
3. Understand publication conventions and apply standards of professional manuscript preparation for classroom submissions or submissions for publication.
4. Employ critical approaches and exercise aesthetic sensibilities through interaction with others in the workshop process.
5. Locate and evaluate important writer resources such as publications, markets, and continuing educational opportunities.

Means of Assessment:

Students will be required to do the following:

1. Write and revise several works of poetry in various styles and forms. (SLO 1-3)
2. Employ poetic techniques through on exercises that will be reviewed by both the instructor and peers. (SLO 1, 2, 4)
3. Read, interpret, and analyze the craft of professional literary works and model student works. (SLO 1, 4)
4. Comprehend and apply various literary terms/techniques in discussion of professional and student works. (SLO 1, 4)
5. Present various works in workshop and participate in the discussion of other students' work. (SLO 1, 4)
6. Complete other class activities that support the development of quality work. (SLO 1, 3, 4)
7. Demonstrate an understanding of publication conventions and apply standards of professional manuscript preparation. (SLO 5)

Grading Policy

Instructor's specific grading policy must be included in the syllabus distributed to students. Instructors must include an explicit statement on penalties for late or missed assignments.

Attendance Policy

BCC Attendance Policy: "All students are expected to attend punctually every scheduled meeting of each course in which they are registered. Attendance and lateness policies and sanctions are to be determined by the instructor for each section of each course. These will be established in writing on the individual course outline. Attendance will be kept by the instructor for administrative and counseling purposes."

Instructor's specific attendance policy must be included in the syllabus distributed to students.

Course Texts and Other Required Materials

Specific required textbook(s) will be included in each instructor's syllabus.

Example: Behn, Robin and Chase Twichell, eds. *The Practice of Poetry: Writing Exercises from Poets Who Teach*. Harper, 1992.

BCC Statement on Academic integrity (2022-23 Catalog):

Bergen Community College is committed to academic integrity – the honest, fair, and continuing pursuit of knowledge, free from fraud or deception.

Students are responsible for their own work. Faculty and academic support services staff will take appropriate measures to discourage academic dishonesty.

The College recognizes the following general categories of violations of academic integrity. Academic integrity is violated whenever a student does one or more of the following:

1. Uses unauthorized assistance in any academic work.
 - copies from another student's exam
 - uses notes, books, electronic devices or other aids of any kind during an exam, when doing so is prohibited
 - steals an exam or possesses a stolen copy of any exam
2. Gives unauthorized assistance to another student
 - completes a graded academic activity or takes an exam for someone else
 - gives answers to or shares answers with another student before or during an exam or other graded academic activity
 - shares answers during an exam by using a system of signals
3. Fabricates data in support of an academic assignment
 - cites sources that do not exist
 - cites sources that were not used
 - submits any academic assignment which contains falsified or fabricated data or results
4. Inappropriately or unethically uses technological means to gain academic advantage
 - inappropriately or unethically acquires material via the Internet or by any other means
 - uses any devices (electronic or hidden) for communication or unauthorized retrieval of information during an exam

Accessibility Statement

Bergen Community College is committed to ensuring the full participation of all students in its programs. If you have a documented disability (or think you may have a disability) and, as a result, need a reasonable accommodation to participate in this class, complete course requirements, or benefit from the College's programs or services, contact the Office of Special Services (OSS) as soon as possible at 201-612-5270 or www.bergen.edu/oss. To receive any academic accommodation, you must be appropriately registered with OSS. The OSS works with students confidentially and does not disclose any disability-related information without their permission. The OSS serves as a clearinghouse on disability issues and works in partnership with faculty and all other student service offices.

Support Services

Distance Learning Office	Room C 334	201-612-5581 psimms@bergen.edu
English Language Resource Center	Room E- 156	201-612-5292 http://www.bergen.edu/pages/2182.asp
Writing Center	Room L 125	201-447- 7489 http://www.bergen.edu/pages/1795.asp
Office of Specialized Services	Room L 116	201-612-5270 www.bergen.edu/oss
Sidney Silverman Library	Room L- 226	201-447-7131 www.bergen.edu/library

Sample 15-Week Course Syllabus

- Week 1: Introduction
Favorite Poem Discussion
- Week 2: Free Verse vs. Traditional Forms
Lyric Poems vs. Narrative Poems (McClatchey: selected poems)
Exercise 1: Thinking Lyrically
- Week 3: Basics of Poetry – Line, Meter, Stanza (Strand: 136-161) The
Sounds of Words: Alliteration, Assonance, Rhyme
(McClatchey: selected poems)
Exercise 2: Line Breaks
- Week 4: The Importance of Image and Image Patters (McClatchey: selected poems)
Exercise 3: The Natural World as Image
Workshop
- Week 5: Figures of Speech: Metaphor, Simile, Personification, Hyperbole
Exercise 4: Create an Image Pattern
Workshop
- Week 6: Voice and Tone (McClatchey: selected poems)
Exercise 5: Working with Metaphor
Workshop
- Week 7: Poetic Endings (McClatchey: selected poems)
Exercise 6: Creating sound patterns
Workshop
- Week 8: The Sonnet (Strand: 55-72)
Exercise 7: Art as Inspiration
Workshop
- Week 9: The Villanelle and The Pantoum (Strand: 5-20; 43-54)
Exercise 8: Repeating Oneself

- Workshop
- Week 10 The Ballad and Blank Verse (Strand: 73-100; 101-120)
Exercise 9: Historic Allusions
Workshop
- Week 11 The Ode and The Elegy (Strand: 167-205; 240-258)
- Exercise 10: Sincerity and Sentimentality
Workshop
- Week 12 The Pastoral (Strand: 207-238)
Exercise 11: Free Association
Workshop
- Week 13 Writing About Things That Matter: The Difficulty of Current Affairs
Exercise 12: Current Event
Workshop
- Week 14 Discussion on Publication Markets
The Art of Submission
- Week 15 Why Poetry Matters (Selected Poems)
Portfolios Due