



**Chaminade**  
**University**  
OF HONOLULU

# Poetry and Drama, EN 256 <sup>02</sup>

Fall Day Semester, 2000

FD '00  
PM

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EN 256 course web: <http://www.edwebs.com/cham/256/fallday00>

Office Hours: MWF, 1 - 2 p.m., 4 - 5 p.m.

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Feedback: Any comments?

Your Last Name:

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Your Email address:

## Course Description (toc)

English 256, Poetry and Drama, provides students with an introduction to literature primarily through the study of poetry and drama. The course centers on reading and discussing major anthologized works.

By the end of the semester students should feel that they have a clearer and deeper sense of what they personally value in literature as well as what has been valuable to human culture.

### Diversity

Chaminade's "Core Beliefs Statement" says, "Students, both traditional and non-traditional, bring a variety of talents, traditions, cultures and abilities. This diversity brings a special opportunity to the Chaminade community, which can then nurture and guide each student to the fullest realization of potential." Consequently, this EN 256, Poetry and Drama, course encompasses readings and writing assignments that both reflect and examine the diversity of our literary heritage. Additionally, the course puts special attention on the problems faced by authors seeking to write from unique personal or cultural perspectives to readers

who may not share the same perspectives.

## **Texts (toc)**

Texts for this course are available online. Students may read texts online, thus saving the costs of printing, or they may read conventional printed texts, which are widely available in libraries and bookstores.

George Bernard Shaw, Pygmalion

William Shakespeare, Hamlet

Sophocles, Oedipus Rex

Selected poems by Emily Dickinson, Robert Frost, William Butler Yeats, T.S. Eliot, Langston Hughes, Gwendolyn Brooks, Sylvia Plath, William Shakespeare, Walt Whitman and others.

Films: *My Fair Lady*, *Hamlet* (Kenneth Branagh version)

note: Films are widely available via video rental outlets.

## **Online References**

Glossary of Literary Terms

Humanities Resources: Voice of the Shuttle

Internet Public Library

Literary Resources

Resources for Writers

## **Requirements (toc)**

Participation (approximately 20%)

Reading journal (approximately 10%)

Two essays (approximately 20%)

Quizzes and miscellaneous assignments (approximately 10%)

Final Exam (approximately 40%)

### **Participation (toc)**

The course requires regular attendance and participation in discussions.

### **Reading journal (toc)**

Students will keep a reading journal, either in conventional pen and ink notebooks or on their computers. Journals should contain free-form responses the required readings.

The requirement for the journal is a minimum of 30 pages for the term. Journals will be checked at the final exam.

**\*\* Suggestions for keeping a journal \*\***

### **Essays (toc)**

Two essays of approximately 1200 words each will be due during the term. Essays for this course will review and expand in some detail the discussions described above. While students may want to do some background research, it is not a requirement. A important element in essays for this course is quotation from required readings

In general, essays will be evaluated with regard to: 1. organization, 2. clarity, 3. correctness, 4. conciseness, and 5. creativity.

Essays must be submitted via the course web site, using the links provided in the study guide. It is best to compose the essays using your favorite word processing program, then copy and paste the text into the window provided on the submission form. Be sure to double space between paragraphs.

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## ***Unit 2 -- Poetry and Metaphor: September 7 - September 18*** [\(toc\)](#)

**Read:** [Langston Hughes, "Cross"](#)  
[Hughes, "Dream Deferred"](#)

[Link to the Langston Hughes web page from the Academy of American Poets](#)

Gwendolyn Brooks, ["We Real Cool"](#)

Angelou, Maya ["On the Pulse of the Morning"](#) This is the poem Angelou read at President Clinton's 1992 inauguration.

Index of links to WWW resources relating to [Afro-American literature](#), from the [Voice of the Shuttle](#) WWW project at the University of California at Santa Barbara.

[The Poems of Emily Dickinson](#), from Project Bartelby

[Link to the Emily Dickinson web page from the Academy of American Poets](#)

Emily Dickinson, ["A Word"](#)

Dickinson, ["A Syllable"](#)

Dickinson, ["Because I could not stop for Death--"](#)

Dickinson, ["I heard a Fly buzz"](#)

Dickinson, ["I'm Nobody! Who are you?"](#)

[Link to the Sylvia Plath web page from the Academy of American Poets](#)

Sylvia Plath, ["Metaphors"](#)

Plath, ["Mirror"](#)

### **Lecture 2: "How Poems Mean"**

**Quiz 2** (Wednesday, September 18)

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## ***Unit 3 -- Shakespeare and the Sonnets: September 19 - September 29*** [\(toc\)](#)

[Introduction to Shakespeare from the Academy of American Poets](#)

**Read:** [Sonnets 1 - 17](#)

**Lecture 3:** ["Shakespeare and the Sonnets"](#)

**Quiz 3** (Friday, September 29)

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## ***Unit 4 -- What Is Modern?: September 30 - October 11*** [\(toc\)](#)

**Read:** Yeats, ["The Wild Swans at Coole"](#)

Yeats, ["The Second Coming"](#)

[Poems by W.B. Yeats](#)

[William Carlos Williams](#) -- overview

[Williams, "Spring and All"](#)

[Williams, "The Red Wheelbarrow" and "The Dance"](#) (Note: "The Dance" is based on painting. Follow [this link](#) and try to find the painting.)

Follow [this link](#) for more details about essay assignments.

### Quizzes and miscellaneous assignments ([toc](#))

Online quizzes will be posted to the course web site throughout the term. Quizzes are intended to pace students through the course's required readings and help develop key concepts.

While participation in quizzes is required, they are self-graded, and should be seen as preparation for the objective section of the final exam, as described below.

In addition to quizzes, students may be required to complete additional informal assignments, for example, reading brief excerpts from other works aloud to a friend or over the telephone.

### Final Exam ([toc](#))

The final exam consists of two sections. The first section is made up of 25 or more short answer or multiple-choice questions similar to those on the quizzes. The second section consists of two essay questions which will be distributed during the week prior to the exam. While the objective section is "closed book," the essay section is "open book."

### Self-assessment and Final Grade

The final grade for the course will be determined in part by the student's [self-assessment and grade estimate](#), which will be submitted after taking the final exam.

### Academic Honesty and Plagiarism

All material submitted in fulfillment of course requirements must be written by the registered student.

While students are encouraged to consult sources outside the required reading of the course, they are also responsible for clearly stating the nature of their sources. Statements of "common knowledge" are generally exempt from this scholarly requirement.

Plagiarism is defined as the presentation of someone else's ideas as your own. Plagiarism in this course will result in a grade of "0" for the assignment and possible failure for the course.

## Course Outline and Study Guide

### *Unit 1 -- Types of Literature, Types of Readers: August 28 - September 6 ([toc](#))*

**Read:** [Keeping a course journal](#)

**Read:** [Robert Frost, The Road Not Taken](#)

[Frost, "Fire and Ice"](#)

[Frost, "Mending Wall"](#)

[Frost, "After Apple Picking"](#)

[Frost, "Out, Out --"](#)

[Frost, "Birches"](#)

Texts of the poems highlighted above are available via the [Bartelby Library](#) at Columbia University. Also see [this link](#), which includes an excellent photograph of Frost, to the National Portrait Gallery web.

### **Lecture 1: "Opening up the Canon: I Have a Dream"**

**Read:** Write a Haiku – [Click Here](#)

**Submit Haiku** (Wednesday, September 6)

**Quiz 1** (Wednesday, September 6)

T.S. Eliot, "The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock"

Here is a link to good T.S. Eliot page

Lecture 4: "Love is a Rose. Or, What is Metaphor?"

Quiz 4 (Monday, October 9)

Submit Essay 1. See Essay Guidelines for more information.(Wednesday, October 11)

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## ***Unit 5 -- Poetry in Context: October 12 - October 23*** (toc)

Read: "How to Read These Poems" by Edward Hirsh

Quiz 5 (Friday, October 20)

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## ***Unit 6 -- The Fusion of Reality and Illusion: October 24 - November 3*** (toc)

Read: George Bernard Shaw, Pygmalion

Quiz 6 (Wednesday, November 1)

Film: *My Fair Lady*.

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## ***Unit 7 -- Tragedy in the Classical Sense: November 4 - November 15*** (toc)

Read: Sophocles, "Oedipus Rex"

Lecture 7: Tragedy 1

Quiz 7 (Monday, November 13)

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## ***Unit 8 -- Drama in Elizabethan England: November 16 - November 27*** (toc)

Read: Shakespeare, The Tragedy of Hamlet Note: This link has been intermittent lately, so here is another one.

Film: *Hamlet* (Kenneth Branagh version)

Lecture 8: More on Tragedy . . . and a Bit about Comedy

Quiz 8 (Friday, November 24)

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## ***Unit 9 -- Literature of Hawai'i: November 28 - December 8*** (toc)

Lecture 9: Literature of Hawai'i

Quiz 9 (Wednesday, December 6)

*Final Exam: To Be Announced (week of December 11)*

Submit Essay 2 See Essay Guidelines for more information. (Monday, December 11)

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**Self-Assessment** (Monday, December 11)