



Chaminade University

EN 303 / 403, Creative Writing: Poetry

Fall Day Semester, 2002

Instructor: Jim Kraus, jkraus@chaminade.edu

Henry Hall 206-A, ph. 735-4877 -- Office Hours: MWF 1 - 2 p.m., 3 - 4 p.m.

Course Homepage: <http://madrona.forest.net/kraus/cham/303/fallday02>

This course in poetry writing examines the techniques of contemporary poetry and provides practice in writing original poems as well as analytical essays about poetry. The course provides opportunity for students to explore their motives for writing and to "try on" a variety of approaches to writing poetry. Throughout the course, writing projects consisting of edited material from journals and other assignments are submitted via an electronic conferencing system for discussion in class. Although considerable background reading is required from the various texts, class sessions themselves are conducted as workshops in which student writing is often at the center of discussion.

The objectives of this course cover the general scope of poetry writing from the point of view of the author. By the end of the course the student should have:

- An increased understanding of what motivates people to write poetry
- An increased knowledge of key terminology associated with the writing of poetry
- Knowledge of the "rules" of poetry writing
- An increased awareness of the writing considered to be a part of any poet's basic knowledge
- A clear understanding of the various ways of developing poems
- An increased knowledge of the poetic use of "persona"
- An understanding of how poetic ideas are initiated
- Knowledge of the difference between good and bad poetry
- An increased awareness of the major poetic genres
- A general knowledge of the market for poetry and creative writing generally

Texts

Barbara Drake, *Writing Poetry*

Maxine Hairston, et. al. *Scott Foresman Handbook*, 6th edition.

Additional texts for this course are available online.

Requirements

Participation in online discussions (approximately 20%)

Reading journal (approximately 10%)

Two essays (approximately 20%)

Quizzes and miscellaneous assignments (approximately 10%)

Mid-term and Final exams (approximately 40%)

Tentative Course Outline -- Go to course homepage for details

Unit 1 -- Introduction and Review -- Wednesday, August 28, 2002 to Friday, September 06, 2002

- Log in to WebBoard Forum for this course and read through the "Help" files there. Due Wednesday, August 28, 2002
- WebBoard Forum Post an autobiographical paragraph to the "Introductions" conference in the forum for your section. Due Wednesday, August 28, 2002
- Keeping a course journal
- Glossary of Literary Terms
- Guidelines for Essays, (Drake 349 - 362)
- EN 303 Essay Assignments
- "Beginning with Poetry" (Drake 1 - 12)
- "How to Read These Poems" by Edward Hirsh

Unit 2 -- Memory and Catalogs (Drake 13 - 54) -- Monday, September 09, 2002 to Monday, September 16, 2002

Unit 3 -- Observation (Drake 55 - 92) -- Wednesday, September 18, 2002 to Wednesday, September 25, 2002

Unit 4 -- Form (Drake 93 - 130) -- Friday, September 27, 2002 to Friday, October 04, 2002

- Essay 1 Due: Monday, September 30, 2002

Unit 5 -- Text and Intertext (Drake 131 - 176) -- Monday, October 07, 2002 to Wednesday, October 16, 2002

Unit 6 -- Image and Imagination (Drake 177 - 200) -- Friday, October 18, 2002 to Friday, October 25, 2002

- Mid-term Exam: Friday, October 25, 2002

Unit 7 -- Voice and Genre (Drake 201 - 256) -- Monday, October 28, 2002 to Wednesday, November 06, 2002

Unit 8 -- Mythography (Drake 257 - 294) -- Friday, November 08, 2002 to Friday, November 15, 2002

Unit 9 -- Experimentation (Drake 295 - 318) -- Monday, November 18, 2002 to Wednesday, November 27, 2002

Unit 10 -- Tradition vs Avant Garde (Drake 319 - 348) -- Monday, December 02, 2002 to Monday, December 09, 2002

- Essay 2 Due: Monday, December 09, 2002
- Final Exam: Monday, December 09, 2002, 12:45 to 2:45 p.m.