NOTE to prospective students: This syllabus is intended to provide students who are considering taking this course an idea of what they will be learning. A more detailed syllabus will be available on the course site for enrolled students and may be more current than this sample syllabus. Summer term courses may be accelerated – please check the Ecampus Schedule of Classes for more information.

WR 241
INTRODUCTION TO POETRY WRITING (Writing II)

COURSE CREDIT:
(3) This course combines approximately 90 hours of instruction, online activities, and assignments for 3 credits.

PREREQUISITES, CO-REQUISITES AND ENFORCED PREREQUISITES:
WR 121 [C-] or Placement Test WWRI(1)

COURSE DESCRIPTION:
In this course we will try our hand at a wide range of poetic techniques, projects, and stances available to poets. In doing so, we will learn to recognize the poetic subject, as well as design a fitting structure for it. At the end of this course you will turn in a portfolio of 5 poems:

- a syllabic poem describing an object, animal, or landscape,
- a poem in persona (invented voice), based on a word, phrase, or thing
- a narrative poem, based on the life of an historical person,
- an homage (poem dedicated to the spirit of a place, person, thing, event, idea),
- and either an ekphrastic poem or an ars poetica (poem related to the other arts/about the art of poetry).

In addition, the workshop group will complete a long, linked haiku poem, or renku.

This course will review the elements of prosody, teaching you how to scan a poem’s meter, identify types of rhyme and common poetic figures, and will ask you to think actively about the use and impact of different line breaks, line lengths, images, symbols, and metaphors, and sound and rhythmic features.

We will write exercises, some collaboratively (as a class or in groups), to prepare for the poems and to practice the poetic features and devices we encounter. The exercises are designed to improve the student’s performance on the midterm poetics exam.
This course will also require you to do research in order to make your poems more deeply envisioned and accurate to fact, and to read widely and deeply in order to gain inspiration for the concept and design of poems.

Because the success of the workshop depends on everyone’s active participation in the discussion, you will be expected to contribute to class discussion. You will also belong to a critique group of 2-3 people whose work you will respond to in writing.

CONTACT INFORMATION:
DR. KAREN HOLMBERG
E-MAIL: karen.holmberg@oregonstate.edu
Phone: 737-1661
Office: 350 Moreland Hall
Office Hours: Monday 1-2, Thursday 11:30-12:30

Sample syllabi may not have the most up-to-date information. For accuracy, please check the ECampus Schedule of Classes to see the most current instructor information. You can search for contact information by name from the OSU Home Page.

LEARNING RESOURCES:
Ellen Bryant Voigt and Heather McHugh, Hammer and Blaze: A Gathering of Contemporary American Poets.

NOTE: For textbook accuracy, please always check the textbook list at the OSU Bookstore website. Sample syllabi may not have the most up-to-date information.

Students can also click the ‘OSU Beaver Store’ link associated with the course information in the Ecampus schedule of classes for course textbook information and ordering.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:
LEARNING OUTCOMES:
• recognizing and shaping the poetic subject;
• learning to manage the rhythm and pacing of the poetic line;
• gaining a fundamental knowledge of the main metrical patterns and poetic devices, as well as an array of poetic forms and modes;
• becoming an active and creative reviser, one who considers multiple directions for a poem;
• reading poetry with a sensitivity to its layers of meaning, idea, and emotion;
• critiquing peers' work meticulously and articulately.

WRITING II BACC CORE OUTCOMES:
• Apply multiple theories, concepts, and techniques for creating and evaluating written communication.
• Write effectively for diverse audiences within a specific area or discipline using appropriate standards and conventions.
• Apply critical thinking to writing and writing process, including revision.

COURSE CONTENT AND POLICIES:
COURSE STRUCTURE:
Under Canvas Course Documents you will find folders for Weeks 1-10; the first document in each folder will be a detailed schedule of topics, readings, exercises, poem projects, and activities for that week.

Readings: There are 9 written lectures in this course; these are short (a few pages) and cover the main ideas and techniques of versification that you will practice in this class. All of the midterm material and concepts are taken right from the lectures, and all the exercises are linked to them. Please read the lectures carefully.

Exercises: The exercises are directly linked to the lectures; most often, I will establish a discussion forum and you can post your completed exercise as a thread. We may look at and read over selected exercises in class. In class exercises: if we do an exercise in class, and you prefer not to share it, please write DO NOT SHARE at the top.

Workshop: Poems will generally have to be posted to the appropriate Discussion forum by the Tuesday meeting of a given week (please do this by attachment in order to preserve your poem’s formatting). Students will be responsible for printing out poems for workshop. Because of the size of the class, we also will establish an on-line forum for discussion of poems; each student will have at least 3 poems discussed in class by the workshop group. Chronic silence in workshop will result in your final grade being lowered by a full letter.

Critiques: You will also be responsible for e-mailing a detailed critique letter to the writer posting before and after you (If you are first, you will respond the poem after yours as well as the last poem; if you are last to post, you will respond to the poem just before yours as well as the first poem posted). You must CC me in the e-mail so that I can log in your points. PLEASE DO NOT ATTACH YOUR CRITIQUES TO THE DISCUSSION FORUM!
Other course activities:

- We will write a group poem, a renku or Japanese linked poem, starting in week 6. The renku stanzas you write will count as an exercise.
- We will also have a poetry reading to conclude our class.
- You must attend at least one poetry reading outside of class time (I will provide a list in our Canvas Announcements).

Computer issues: Please use your ONID e-mail to send attachments: e-mails sent from other providers such as Yahoo or Hotmail routinely end up in my junk mail folder!

My responsibilities: I will contribute to the workshop as a participant, and to some extent, a moderator. In addition, I will make written comments on each poem you submit; you will receive these comments within 10 days of posting your poems.

Note: due to family obligations, I keep to a M-F workweek. It is unlikely that I will be able to respond to work or e-mails on the weekend. My normal hours in office are from 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. Therefore, if you e-mail me in the later afternoon, I will not receive your e-mail until the next day.

COURSE OVERVIEW: (please consult the weekly schedule for detailed assignments)

**WEEK 1:** Counting syllables and marking stressed and unstressed syllables. How poems mean. Lecture 1: “Plot” and meaning in poems. Lecture 2: Counting syllables and marking stresses.

**WEEK 2:** Lecture 3: Time and Point of View; Lecture 4: Anatomy of a Line. Poem 1 due: the Syllabic Poem.

**WEEK 3:** Lecture 5: Rhythm and meter. Lecture 6: Persona and Point of View; Poem 2 due: Persona poem on a word or phrase.

**WEEK 4:** Lecture 7: Stanza Structure.

**WEEK 5:** Midterm exam; Lecture 8: Sound and Tone in Poems. Poem 3 due: Historical poem.

**WEEK 6:** Lecture 9: Linebreak and line length. Group exercise: writing a renku.

**WEEK 7:** Poem 4 due: The Homage.

**WEEK 8:** Poem 5 due: The Ars Poetica/Ekphrastic poem.
HONESTY AND CIVILITY
A plagiarized poem or exam will receive an F and a report will be filed with the Student Conduct and Mediation Program. Two reports at OSU can lead to suspension or expulsion. Behaviors that are disruptive to learning will not be tolerated and will be referred to the Student Conduct and Mediation Program for disciplinary action. In keeping with federal law, behaviors that create a hostile, offensive, or intimidating environment based on gender, race, ethnicity, religion, age, disability, marital status or sexual orientation will be referred to the Affirmative Action Office.

EVALUATION OF STUDENT PERFORMANCE:
GRADED REQUIREMENTS:
- 5 revised poems to be submitted at the end of the semester in a portfolio (must include at least one early draft) (40%)
- An in-class midterm on poetic devices and techniques, including a close reading essay on a poem (20%)
- Participation in workshop discussions (10%)
- Exercises (15%)
- Written critiques of a group of your peers’ poems (15%)

COURSE SITE LOGIN INFORMATION
Information on how to login to your course site can be found HERE.

STATEMENT REGARDING STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES
Oregon State University is committed to student success; however, we do not require students to use accommodations nor will we provide them unless they are requested by the student. The student, as a legal adult, is responsible to request appropriate accommodations. The student must take the lead in applying to Disability Access Services (DAS) and submit requests for accommodations each term through DAS Online. OSU students apply to DAS and request accommodations at our Getting Started with DAS page.

Accommodations are collaborative efforts between students, faculty and Disability Access Services (DAS). Students with accommodations approved through DAS are responsible for contacting the faculty member in charge of the course prior to or during the first week of the term to discuss accommodations. Students who believe they are eligible for accommodations but who have not yet obtained approval through DAS should contact DAS immediately at 541-737-4098.

Additionally, Canvas, the learning management system through which this course is offered, provides a vendor statement certifying how the platform is accessible to students with disabilities.
ACADEMIC INTEGRITY AND STUDENT CONDUCT (OSU POLICY)

Students are expected to be honest and ethical in their academic work. Intentional acts of academic dishonesty such as cheating or plagiarism may be penalized by imposing an “F” grade in the course.

Student conduct is governed by the universities policies, as explained in the Office of the Dean of Student Life: Student Conduct and Community Standards. In an academic community, students and faculty, and staff each have responsibility for maintaining an appropriate learning environment, whether online or in the classroom. Students, faculty, and staff have the responsibility to treat each other with understanding, dignity, and respect.

Students are expected to conduct themselves in the course (e.g. on discussion boards, email postings, etc.) in compliance with the university’s regulations regarding civility. Students will be expected to treat all others with the same respect as they would want afforded to themselves. Disrespectful behavior (such as harassing behavior, personal insults, inappropriate language) or disruptive behaviors are unacceptable and can result in sanctions as defined by Student Conduct and Community Standards.

For more info on these topics please see:

Statement of Expectations for Student Conduct
Student Conduct and Community Standards - Offenses
Policy On Disruptive Behavior

PLAGIARISM

You are expected to submit your own work in all your assignments, postings to the discussion board, and other communications, and to clearly give credit to the work of others when you use it. Academic dishonesty will result in a grade of “F.”

Statement of Expectations for Student Conduct
Avoiding Academic Dishonesty

Turnitin Plagiarism Prevention

Your instructor may ask you to submit one or more of your writings to Turnitin, a plagiarism prevention service. Your assignment content will be checked for potential plagiarism against Internet sources, academic journal articles, and the papers of other OSU students, for common or borrowed content. Turnitin generates a report that highlights any potentially unoriginal text in your paper. The report may be submitted directly to your instructor or your instructor may elect to have you submit initial drafts through Turnitin and you will receive the report allowing you the opportunity to make adjustments and ensure that all source material has been properly cited.
Papers you submit through Turnitin for this or any class will be added to the OSU Turnitin database and may be checked against other OSU paper submissions. You will retain all rights to your written work. For further information on Turnitin please click HERE.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

If you experience computer difficulties, need help downloading a browser or plug-in, assistance logging into the course, or if you experience any errors or problems while in your online course, contact the OSU Help Desk for assistance. You can call (541) 737-3474, email osuhelpdesk@oregonstate.edu or visit the OSU Computer Helpdesk online.

COURSE DEMO
GETTING STARTED

TUTORING

For information about possible tutoring for this course, please visit our Ecampus NetTutor page. Other resources include:

Writing Center
Online Writing Lab

STUDENT EVALUATION OF TEACHING

The online Student Evaluation of Teaching form will be available in week 9 and close at the end of finals week. Students will be sent instructions via ONID by the Office of Academic Programs, Assessment, and Accreditation. Students will log in to “Student Online Services” to respond to the online questionnaire. The results on the form are anonymous and are not tabulated until after grades are posted. Course evaluation results are very important and are used to help improve courses and the learning experience of future students. Results from questions are tabulated anonymously and go directly to instructors and unit heads/supervisors. Unless a comment is “signed,” which will associate a name with a comment, student comments on the open-ended questions are anonymous and forwarded to each instructor. "Signed" comments are forwarded to the unit head/supervisor.

REFUND POLICY INFORMATION

Please see the Ecampus website for policy information on refunds and late fees.