

CRW 2300: POETRY WRITING

Course: CRW 2300, Section 5311

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COURSE DESCRIPTION

CRW 2300 is a poetry course that emphasizes reading, writing, and criticizing poetry. This seminar operates on the philosophy that you must become a skilled, critical reader of poetry to become a skilled poet. Our discussions will employ the vocabulary and considerations specific to writing poetry. Learning this vocabulary will allow you to effectively articulate your praise and criticism. You'll need this skill in the second half of the course, where, in addition to studying published poems, you'll be workshoping the poems of your peers and writing poems yourself.

STATEMENT OF OBJECTIVES

The student learning outcomes for this course are as detailed in the Undergraduate Catalog at <http://www.registrar.ufl.edu/catalog/policies/advisinggened.html#requirements>.

REQUIRED TEXTS

An Introduction to Poetry
X. J. Kennedy & Dana Gioia
13th edition

Page after Page
Heather Sellers

Supplemental readings will be provided on Sakai by the Instructor. These must be printed and brought to class each week. Retain all poems, handouts, and materials from this course. Start a folder or notebook the first week of class, and maintain it. You are responsible for having print-outs of readings and poems in class, and for keeping track of your own grades.

Helpful Websites

The Poetry Foundation
Poetry Daily
Verse Daily
Purdue OWL

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Poems (8 @ 25 points)	200	
Workshop/Class Participation	100	
Quizzes	50	
Final Portfolio	100	
Intro to Final Portfolio	100	[1,500 words]
Recitation #1	25	
Memorized Recitation	50	
Close Reading #1	50	[600 words]
Close Reading #2	50	[600 words]
Close Reading #3	50	[600 words]
Close Reading #4	100	[1200 words]
Book Review	125	[1500 words]
 Total points:	 1,000	 [6,000 words]

Assignments

Poems (25 points each x 8 = 200 points) / Workshop (20 points each x 5 = 100 points)

You will turn in eight poems that respond to the assigned prompts. The first two will be for me only; poems three through eight will be workshopped.

Workshop Procedure: Bring **copies** to class AND upload a copy to Sakai. Please read each poem carefully (at least two times), and mark up the copies with feedback. Prepare at least TWO POSITIVE and TWO CRITICAL comments for each poem, and be prepared to share them during workshop. Bring the copies to class on the day of workshop. At the end of class, you will return the poems to the poets who wrote them. I will randomly check to make sure feedback is given.

Requirements:

1. To receive credit, poems must:
 - a. have 1" margins (and no double-spacing)
 - b. be left-justified (not center- or right-, although indentation and other variations in form are allowed)
 - c. be written in Times New Roman font, size 12
 - d. have a title
 - e. have your name and the assignment number at the top of the page.
2. Poems must respond to the assignment given. **No end-rhyming** unless the prompt says it's OK.
3. Poems must be written in complete sentences (if you eliminated the line breaks, the text would read coherently and be grammatically correct). **No fragments are allowed.**

Final Portfolio (100 points):

Near the end of the semester, you will revise five poems of your choice, taking into account my feedback and the feedback of your peers, as well as your own vigorous reexamination of each poem. The portfolio will be graded as a whole based on the quality of your revisions and the scope of your

improvement throughout the semester. Please turn in both the original poem and the revised copy.

Introduction to Final Portfolio (1,500 words; 150 points):

For the first part of this assignment (~500 words), you will reflect on your writing processes for the poems you've written throughout the semester, you will discuss your methods of revision, and you will examine your own growth as a poet. For the second part, you will discuss how you approached the recitations, how you prepared (which can include writers you listened to), and how you think your recitations could have been improved upon (~500 words). Finally, you will examine your poems as a collected body of work and discuss themes, recurring images, and/or questions that arise from them being put into proximity. You could consider this portion your "artist statement" (~500 words). Make sure that all three sections added together total at least 1,500 words.

Recitation #1 (25 points):

Students will recite a poem for the class. The writer must be "legit." Obviously, the writers we will have read in class would work. You may also refer to the mentioned websites for more options. If the author of the poem is listed on this site, students do not need to approve the poem/author with me.

Memorized Recitation (50 points):

For the second recitation, students will recite a memorized poem. The memorized poem must be at least 14 lines in length. Note: you may not recite only the first 14 lines of a longer poem. The memorized poem must be a complete poem. Again, refer to the poets we are studying or from the mentioned websites.

Class/Workshop Participation (100 points):

I will be keeping track of participation for each class. It is really important to be involved in the class, and you all have important things to say!

Students are responsible for reading the poems to be workshopped, writing comments on them, and bringing printed copies to class. Furthermore, students should be a vocal, but respectful, participant in workshops. Be specific with your comments, written and verbal, since greater detail will help the poet in question. (Note: There will be six workshops, and the lowest score will be dropped.)

Quizzes (50 points):

Pop quizzes will be given throughout the course. They are designed to both ensure that students complete the assigned reading and to review important concepts. Quizzes cannot be made up if absent.

Close Analysis Papers

(#1 = 600 words/50 points; #2 = 600 words/50 points; #3 = 600 words/50 points; #4 = 1,200 words/100 points):

In order to actively engage with the readings, students will write four analysis papers, each paper responding to one or more assigned poems. Close readings train students in the active reading of poems in order to better recognize effective writing practices that students can use in their own poetry, to practice constructing an argument and supporting it with literary evidence, and to grapple with a poem's ambiguities in order to arrive at a personal and unique interpretation of the work.

Book Review (125 points):

You will find and read a full-length book of poems by a single poet that has been released in the last ten years and write a review of the work. For this assignment, we will practice not only reading poems closely, but also engaging our own critical opinions and examining the way poems work together to form a complete volume.

Extra Credit Opportunities

Students may earn extra credit by attending the MFA@FLA reading series—readings of original poetry and fiction by students in UF’s Masters in Fine Arts in creative writing program. These readings take place certain Thursdays at 8 p.m. at Volta Coffee downtown and last approximately 1 hour. See the schedule for dates. Each reading attended (with a paragraph about the experience) is worth 5 points of extra credit.

Grading Scale

A	4.0	93-100	930-1000	C	2.0	73-76	730-769
A-	3.67	90-92	900-929	C-	1.67	70-72	700-729
B+	3.33	87-89	870-899	D+	1.33	67-69	670-699
B	3.0	83-86	830-869	D	1.0	63-66	630-669
B-	2.67	80-82	800-829	D-	0.67	60-62	600-629
C+	2.33	77-79	770-799	E	0.00	0-59	0-599

Course Policies and Procedures***Attendance and Participation***

You are allowed two absences. A third absence will lower your grade by an entire letter. If you accumulate four absences, you will fail the course. Though some absences are excused if the student provides documentation for a university-sponsored event (athletics, theater, music, field trip, religious holidays), if you know you will be missing any “excused” days, you should use these as your two allotted absences.

If you are absent, it is still your responsibility to make yourself aware of all due dates. You are still responsible for turning assignments in on time. **You are also responsible for getting in touch with a classmate to find out what you missed in class.** Save your absences for when you’re really ill. It is your responsibility to keep track of your absences.

TARDINESS: If you are more than 10 minutes late, you will be marked absent. Being tardy two times will equal one absence. Please do not come late to class; arriving late disrupts the entire class and is disrespectful to your peers and the instructor.

Academic Honesty

As a University of Florida student, your performance is governed by the UF Student Honor Code, (<http://www.registrar.ufl.edu/catalog/policies/students.html>). The Honor Code requires Florida students to neither give nor receive unauthorized aid in completing all assignments. Violations include cheating, plagiarism, bribery, and misrepresentation, all defined in detail at the above site.

Plagiarism

Plagiarism is a serious violation of the Student Honor Code. The Honor Code prohibits and defines plagiarism as follows:

Plagiarism. A student shall not represent as the student's own work all or any portion of the work of another. Plagiarism includes but is not limited to:

1. Quoting oral or written materials including but not limited to those found on the internet, whether published or unpublished, without proper attribution.
2. Submitting a document or assignment which in whole or in part is identical or substantially identical to a document or assignment not authored by the student.

(University of Florida, Student Honor Code, 8 July 2011)

University of Florida students are responsible for reading, understanding, and abiding by the entire Student Honor Code. The University Writing Program takes plagiarism very seriously, and treats instances of plagiarism as dishonesty and as a failure to comply with the scholarly requirements of this course. You commit plagiarism when you present the ideas or words of someone else as your own.

Important tip: There should never be a time when you copy and paste something from the Internet and don't provide the exact location and citation information for the source.

If a student plagiarizes all or any part of any assignment, he or she will be awarded a failing grade on the assignment. Additionally, University policy suggests that, as a MINIMUM, instructors should impose a course grade penalty and report any incident of academic dishonesty to the Office of the Dean of Students. Each student's work may be tested for its originality against a wide variety of databases by anti-plagiarism sites to which the University subscribes, and negative reports from such sites may constitute PROOF of plagiarism. Other forms of academic dishonesty will also result in a failing grade on the assignment as a minimum penalty. Examples include cheating on a quiz or citing phony sources or quotations to include in your assignments.

Statement of Composition (C) Credit and Humanities (H) Credit

This course can satisfy the UF General Education requirement for Composition.

This course can satisfy the General Education requirement for Composition or Humanities. For more information, see:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/advising/info/general-education-requirement.aspx>

Guidelines for University of Florida Writing Requirement

"To graduate, you must complete courses that involve substantial writing for a total of 24,000 words. [...] The writing will be evaluated on content, organization and coherence, argument and support, style and mechanics. Evaluations will be on individual work and the evaluated work will be returned to you before the last day of class."

“Writing course grades have two components. Professors will indicate whether or not you met the writing requirement and will assign a course grade. Therefore, to receive writing credit you must receive a minimum grade of C (2.0) and satisfactory completion of the writing component. It is possible not to meet the writing requirement and still earn a satisfactory grade, so you should review your degree audit after receiving your grade to verify receipt of credit for the writing component. All courses that require writing will not necessarily count toward the writing requirement. In writing requirement courses, students will be evaluated as described above.”

CRW 1301 requires a total of 6,000 words toward this requirement. The 6,000 words will come from these assignments: Intro to Final Portfolio [1,500 words], Close analysis paper #1[1,000 words], Close analysis paper #2 [1,500 words], Close analysis paper #3 [2,000 words].

For more information, see: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/advising/info/writing-and-math-requirement.aspx>

Assessment Rubric

Classroom Disruptions

Much of this class is as discussion-based, so it is vital that we always respect each other's views. Students are required to turn cell phones and pagers off. Ringing phones and text messaging is a disruption of the class, which may result in your being asked to leave the classroom and being counted absent. If you have a personal emergency and must keep your phone on one day, please discuss it with the instructor before class.

Late Work

Students are responsible for submitting assignments by their due dates. **Papers are due at the beginning of class on the assigned date.** Late papers will not be accepted.

Readings

Reading assignments typically appear in the syllabus on the date on which they are due. Students should have completed these readings before coming to class that day.

Conferences

Students are encouraged to use the instructor's office hours if there are questions about progress in the course, work underway, or any other course-related concerns. If there is a conflict with the posted office hours, please contact the instructor to schedule a better time. Having conferences on assignments is frequently the best way to improve the quality of final drafts.

Students with Disabilities

The University of Florida complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act. Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of

Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the Instructor when requesting accommodation.

Statement on Harassment

UF provides an educational and working environment for its students, faculty, and staff that is free from gender discrimination and sexual harassment. For more about UF policies regarding harassment, see:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/advising/info/student-honor-code.aspx>

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

Week 1 (1/12) Introduction

Week 2 (1/19) MLK Day (no class)

Week 3 (1/26) *Introduction to Poetry* (IP) Chapter 1-3 & 18, Reading a Poem, Voice, Words, What is a Poem—Poetry
Page after Page, Chapter 1-2

Week 4 (2/2) IP Chapter 4&5, Saying and Suggesting, Imagery—Poetry
Page after Page, Chapter 3-4
Poem 1 Due

Week 5 (2/9) IP Chapter 6&12, Figure of Speech and Symbol—Poetry
Page after Page, Chapter 5-6
Poem 2 Due

***Rough draft of Close Analysis due (bring a paper copy to peer review in class)**

Week 6 (2/16) IP Chapter 7&8, Song, Sound—Poetry
Page after Page, Chapter 7-8
Bring the lyrics to your favorite song
Bring a copy of both recitation poems
Poem 3 Due **Bring 10 copies**

Close Analysis #1 Due on Sakai

Week 7 (2/23) IP Chapter 9&10, Closed Form and Rhythm—P
Page after Page, Chapter 9-10
Poem 4 Due **Bring 10 copies**
Recitation #1
Workshop #1

Week 8 (3/2) No Class
Spring Break March 1-8

Week 9 (3/9) IP Chapter 17, Recognizing Excellence—P
Page after Page, Chapter 11-12

Poem 5 Due **Bring 10 copies**
Rough Draft of Close Analysis #2 due (peer review in class)
Workshop #2

Week 10 (3/16)

Page after Page, Chapter 13-15

Poem 6 Due **Bring 10 copies**

Close Analysis #2 Due on Sakai

Rough Draft of Close Analysis #3 due (peer review in class)

Workshop #3

Week 11 (3/23) IP Chapter 11, Open Form—P

Page after Page, Chapter 16-19

Workshop

Poem 7 Due **Bring 10 copies**

Workshop #4

Close Analysis #3 Due on Sakai

Week 12 (3/30) IP Chapter 13&14, Myth and Narrative, Identity—P

Page after Page, Chapter 20-21

Poem 8 Due **Bring 10 copies**

Book Review Due

Workshop #5

Week 13 (4/6) Readings TBD

Page after Page, Chapter 22-24

Workshop #6

Rough Draft of Close Analysis #4 due (peer review in class)

Week 14 (4/13) Readings TBD

Page after Page, Chapter 25-27

Close Analysis #4 due

Week 15 (4/20)

Finish Page after Page

Memorized Recitation

Final Portfolio Due