

CRW 6331
Spring 2015
M 6-8
CBD 224

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This semester we'll be reading a good number of very fine poems, carefully analyzing a dozen or so of them, and imitating their formal and rhetorical structures. We'll look at a wide variety of forms and voices in an attempt to widen horizons, to develop a sense of what it is possible to achieve in a poem. Some poems will be frighteningly formal, others constructed and developed according to other, no less demanding rubrics. Students will be asked to write one poem each week, in imitation of the model(s) under discussion, and in addition, each student will present one *explication de texte* and lead the discussion of the poem(s) chosen for the week. The assigned readings for the week will not necessarily be limited to the poems selected for discussion.

Grades will be based on the quality of the poems submitted, the analysis and presentation of the *explication de texte*, as well as contributions to class discussions and attendance.

Final folders will consist of all poems written for the class (don't throw ANYTHING away, especially the originals on which I provide my written comments!), final revisions of 6 of the poems, and an outline of your *explication*, copies of which you will bring to share with the class on the day of your presentation.

Required books:

Anne Carson, *Glass, Irony, and God*
Les Murray, *Learning Human*
Sylvia Plath, *Collected Poems*
Paul Violi, *Fracas*
John Berryman, *The Dream Songs*
Dylan Thomas, *The Collected Poems of Dylan Thomas*

Schedule and Sign-up

Jan 12 Intro, sign-up, model explication

Jan 19 no class, MLK Day

Jan 26

Feb 2

Feb 9

Feb 16

Feb 23

Mar 2 no class, Spring Break

Mar 9

Mar 16

Mar 23

Mar 30

Apr 6

Apr 13

Apr 20