

English 2230F

J. Doelman

Brescia University College

Fall 2011

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Office hours:

Monday 10:30 – 12:00

Thurs. 1:30 to 3:00

Class times:

Mon. 12:30 to 2:30, St. James Building, Room 302

Wed. 1:30 to 2:30, St. James Building, Room 302

Calendar Description: English 2230F/G Studies in Poetics

An introduction to important issues and concepts in the theory and analysis of poetry from different periods.

Prerequisites: At least 60% in English 1020E, 1022E, or 1024E. Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enrol in it, you will be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

Course Objectives (a selection)*:

By the end of the course the successful student will be able to:

1. Understand and paraphrase a passage of poetry, be it ever so dense.
2. Correctly scan a passage of verse in a wide variety of meters.
3. Recognize a variety of the rhetorical figures frequently used in poetry.
4. Articulate the history of ideas on what poetry is, and how it should be discussed.
5. Identify a wide variety of poetic forms and genres, and explain how poets use, manipulate, extend and combine these forms and genres.
6. Analyse in well-written prose how the elements of a poem work together to achieve a cohesive effect.
7. Evaluate the overall effectiveness of an individual poem.

8. Perform poetry orally, with proper attention to its sense and sound qualities.

*Please note that these are merely some of the things that the course is intended to achieve: a full list would be as long as the course itself.

Texts

Adams, Stephen. Poetic Designs. Peterborough: Broadview, 1997.

Custom Coursepack of Readings. (Available from InPrint, across from the bookstore)

An emailed package of poetry, to be printed out by the student.

[I assume that students already have one of

Holman, C. Hugh and William Harmon. A Handbook to Literature. New York: Macmillan, 1999.

or

Abrams, M.H. A Glossary of Literary Terms. 7th ed. New York: Harcourt Brace, 2000.]

Evaluation

Exercises and quizzes	30%
Poetry Analysis (In-class, Mon. Nov. 21)	15%
Essay (Due: Mon, Dec. 5)	20%
Final Exam	<u>35%</u>
	100%

Composition option. (See attached sheet)

Note: For missed tests and missed/late assignments worth 5% or more, the student must meet with an academic advisor to provide documentation for accommodation. For late exercises worth less than 10%, there will be a deduction of 2% per day, with no accommodation. For students who miss a quiz because of illness, there will be a makeup day scheduled late in the semester.

You must pass both the term work and the final exam to pass the course.

Outline of Classes*

Week of Sept. 12

Introduction

What is poetry? What is poetic theory? What is poetic analysis?

History of poetic analysis.

Reading: M.H. Abrams, "The Mirror and the Lamp" (cc)

Preliminary skills and tools for poetic analysis:

The sense of a poem

Using the OED

Other reference tools

Week of Sept. 19

Annotation Exercise (to be submitted: Wed. Sept. 28)

Reading: Margaret Ferguson, "Poetic Syntax" (cc)

Donne, "Love's Growth"

The value and danger of paraphrase

Paraphrase exercise (to be submitted: Wed., Oct. 5)

Reading: Adams, Chapter 1

The basics of prosody: Roots in Song. Ballads. Hymns.

Week of Sept. 26

A sampling of hymns and folk songs in common meter, long meter and short meter.

Iambic tetrameter. Trochaic, anapestic and dactylic meters.

Byron, "She walks in beauty"

Tolkien, selections from *The Lord of the Rings*

Housman, "On Wenlock Edge", "Loveliest of Trees"

Annotation Exercise Due Wed. Sept. 28

Week of Oct. 3

Iambic Pentameter

Anna L. Barbauld, "Washing Day", Byron, "Darkness"

Reading: Peter Hall's *Shakespeare's Advice to the Players*, pp. 24-42 (cc)

Paraphrase Exercise Due Wed. Oct. 5

Reading: Adams, Chapter 2

Rhyme, Meters and Forms

Byron, *Don Juan*, Canto 1, stanzas 1-38.

Week of Oct. 10

Burns, "To a Mountain-Daisy"

Shelley, "To a Skylark"

Mary Wortley Montagu, "Saturday. The Small-Pox. Flavia"

Reading: W.K. Wimsatt, "One Relation of Rhyme to Reason" (cc)

First Scansion quiz, Wed. Oct. 12

Week of Oct. 17

The sonnet: Milton, "When I consider how my light is spent",

Shakespeare, "When in the chronicle", Spenser, "Sonnet 75"

Reading: Adams, Chapter 3,

Reading: Lisa M. Steinman, *Invitation to Poetry*, pp. 59-87 [on reserve at Brescia Library]

Lyric Poetry
Bridges, "Winter Nightfall"
Edward Thomas, "The Unknown Bird"

Week of Oct. 24

Reading: Jonathan Culler, "Apostrophe" from The Pursuit of Signs (cc)

Narrative Poetry

D.C. Scott, "On the Way to the Mission"; Byron, "The Prisoner of Chillon"

Second Scansion quiz (Mon. Oct. 24)

The performance of poetry

Week of Oct. 31

Dramatic Poetry and the question of voice

Joseph Warton, "The Dying Indian"

Robert Browning, "Fra Lippo Lippi"

Tone and diction.

Reading: Lisa M. Steinman, *Invitation to Poetry*, ch. 5, "The Form of the Voice: Tone and Diction" [on reserve at Brescia Library]

Week of Nov. 7

Rhetorical Analysis/Figures of Speech

Tolkien, selections from *The Lord of the Rings*

Milton, "On Shakespeare", Christina Rossetti, "No thing is great",

Grant Williams' helpful web-site:

<http://www.nipissingu.ca/faculty/williams/figofspe.htm>

Sidney, "What may Words Say" (Sonnet 35 of Astrophil and Stella), C. Rossetti, "Mirage"

Reading: Adams, Chapter 4 (to p. 132)

Week of Nov. 14

Diction and Non-figurative imagery

Tennyson, "Calm is the morn" and "Tonight the winds" (from In Memoriam)

Test on Coursepack, Reserve and Adams Readings, Mon. Nov. 14

Eliot, "Preludes"

Week of Nov. 21

In-class poetry analysis Mon., Nov. 21

Reading: Adams, Chapter 4 (pp. 132 to 147)

Metaphor and simile

Campion, "There is a Garden in her Face", Richard Wilbur, "A Simile for her Smile"
[handout]

Wordsworth "Daisy"

Week of Nov. 28

Reading: George Lakoff & Mark Turner, “Life, Death and Time” from More than Cool Reason. (cc)

Personification, Allegory and Symbolism

Anne Finch, “Life’s Progress”

W.E. Henley, “Madam Life”

Reading: Adams, Chapt. 5;

Free Verse

Whitman, "To a Locomotive in Winter"

Week of Dec. 5

Essay Due, Mon. Dec. 5

Free Verse (cont.)

Pound, “The River-Merchant’s Wife”

Plath, “Black Rook in Rainy Weather”

Cummings, “In Just-“

Reading: Hartman, “Counterpoint” (cc)

*Changes may be made to the order of works studied, and some short works may be added to the list. The poems listed above will be our principal examples for a variety of poetic elements and techniques; however, in class I will also draw freely on other examples.

**Poetry Performance Exercises in Small Groups will be scheduled outside class time during late October and November. These will be worth 5% of the 30% Assignments and Quizzes grade.

BRESCIA UNIVERSITY COLLEGE ACADEMIC POLICIES AND REGULATIONS

1. POLICY REGARDING MAKEUP EXAMS AND EXTENSIONS OF DEADLINES

When a student requests academic accommodation (e.g., extension of a deadline, a makeup exam) for work representing 10% or more of the student's overall grade in the course, it is the responsibility of the student to provide acceptable documentation to support a medical or compassionate claim. All such requests for academic accommodation **must** be made through an Academic Advisor and include supporting documentation. Academic accommodation on medical grounds will be granted only if the documentation indicates that the onset, duration and severity of the illness are such that the student could not reasonably be expected to complete her academic responsibilities. Appropriate academic accommodation will be determined by the Dean's Office in consultation with the student's instructor(s). Please note that personal commitments (e.g., vacation flight bookings, work schedule) which conflict with a scheduled test, exam or course requirement are not grounds for academic accommodation.

If supporting documentation is from a family physician, Hospital Urgent Care Centre or Emergency Department, or a walk-in clinic a UWO Student Medical Certificate (SMC) is **required**. To download an SMC go to <https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/index.cfm> and follow the link under "Medical Documentation". Documentation should be obtained at the time of the initial visit. If it is not possible to have an SMC completed by the attending physician, the student must request documentation sufficient to demonstrate that her ability to meet academic responsibilities was seriously affected. Please note that under University Senate regulations document-ation stating simply that the student "was seen for a medical reason" or "was ill" is **not** considered adequate to support a request for academic accommodation. All documentation is to be submitted to an Academic Advisor.

Whenever possible, requests for academic accommodation should be initiated in advance of due dates, examination dates, etc. Students must follow up with their professors and Academic Advisor in a timely manner.

The full statement of University policy regarding extensions of deadlines or makeup exams can be found at <http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2011/pg117.html>.

2. ACADEMIC CONCERNS

If you feel that you have a medical or personal problem that is interfering with your work, contact your instructor and Academic Advisor as soon as possible. Problems may then be documented and possible arrangements to assist you can be discussed at the time of occurrence rather than on a retroactive basis. Retroactive requests for academic accommodation on medical or compassionate grounds may not be considered.

If you think that you are too far behind to catch up or that your work load is not manageable, you should consult an Academic Advisor. If you consider reducing your workload by dropping one or more courses, this must be done by the appropriate deadlines (refer to the Registrar's website, www.registrar.uwo.ca, for official dates). You should consult with the course instructor and the Academic Advisor who can help you consider alternatives to dropping one or more courses. *Note that dropping a course may affect OSAP eligibility and/or Entrance Scholarship eligibility.*

The Dean may refuse permission to write the final examination in a course if the student has failed to maintain satisfactory academic standing throughout the year or for too frequent absence from the class or laboratory.

3. ABSENCES

Short Absences: If you miss a class due to a minor illness or other problems, check your course outline for information regarding attendance requirements and make sure you are not missing a test or assignment. Cover any readings and arrange to borrow notes from a classmate. Contact the course instructor if you have any questions.

Extended Absences: If you have an extended absence, you should contact the course instructor and an Academic Advisor. Your course instructor and Academic Advisor can discuss ways for you to catch up on missed work and arrange academic accommodations, if appropriate.

4. POLICY ON CHEATING & ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

Students are responsible for understanding the nature of and avoiding the occurrence of plagiarism and other academic offences. Students are urged to read the section on Scholastic Offences in the Academic Calendar. Note that such offences include plagiarism, cheating on an examination, submitting false or fraudulent assignments or credentials, impersonating a candidate, or submitting for credit in any course without the knowledge and approval of the instructor to whom it is submitted, any academic work for which credit has previously been obtained or is being sought in another course in the University or elsewhere. Students are advised to consult the section on Academic Misconduct in the Western Academic Calendar.

If you are in doubt about whether what you are doing is inappropriate or not, consult your instructor, the Student Services Centre, or the Registrar. A claim that "you didn't know it was wrong" is not accepted as an excuse.

The penalties for a student guilty of a scholastic offence (including plagiarism) include refusal of a passing grade in the assignment, refusal of a passing grade in the course, suspension from the University, and expulsion from the University.

Plagiarism:

Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea or a passage from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is a major academic offence (see Scholastic Offence Policy in the Western Academic Calendar).

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com.

Computer-marked Tests/exams:

Computer-marked multiple-choice tests and/or exams may be subject to submission for similarity review by software that will check for unusual coincidences in answer patterns that may indicate cheating. Software currently in use to score computer-marked multiple-choice tests and exams performs a similarity review as part of standard exam analysis.

5. PROCEDURES FOR APPEALING ACADEMIC EVALUATIONS

All appeals of a grade must be directed first to the course instructor. If the student is not satisfied with the decision of the course instructor, a written appeal signed by the student must be sent to the Department Chair. If the response of the department is considered unsatisfactory to the student, she may then submit a signed, written appeal to the Office of the Dean. Only after receiving a final decision from the Dean may a student appeal to the Senate Review Board Academic. A Guide to Appeals is available from the Ombudsperson's Office, or you can consult an Academic Advisor. Students are advised to consult the section on Academic Rights and Responsibilities in the Western Academic Calendar.

6. PREREQUISITES AND ANTIREQUISITES

Unless you have either the prerequisites for a course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you will be removed from the course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

Similarly, you will also be deleted from a class list if you have previously taken an antirequisite course unless this has the approval of the Dean. These decisions may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course because you have taken an antirequisite course.

7. SUPPORT SERVICES

The Brescia University College Registrar's website, with a link to Academic Advisors, is at http://www.brescia.uwo.ca/academics/registrar_services/index.html.

The University of Western Ontario Registrar's website is at <http://www.registrar.uwo.ca/index.cfm>

Portions of this document were taken from the Academic Calendar, the Handbook of Academic and Scholarship Policy and the Academic Handbook of

Senate Regulations. This document is a summary of relevant regulations and does not supersede the academic policies and regulations of the Senate of the University of Western Ontario.