

ENGL 2003: CREATIVE WRITING — POETRY

Oklahoma City Community College

*Between my finger and my thumb
The squat pen rests.
I'll dig with it.
-- "Digging" by Seamus Heaney*

Attention: This syllabus is a sample of what may be used in this course and does not replace the official syllabus administered by the instructor within the course itself.

Instructor Information:

Professor: Jon Inglett

Office: 2E4-AH

Office Hours: Consult the professor's website or the current syllabus used in the course

Office Phone: 682 -1611 ext. 7217

Email: jinglett@occc.edu

Website: <http://www.occc.edu/jinglett>

Textbook:

No Textbook Required

Course Description:

Given basic instruction in skills associated with writing poetry, the student will produce examples of the type of writing on which the instruction is focused.

Course Competencies:

By the end of the semester, students should be able to write poetry in a variety of forms, including traditional verse, free verse, and experimental styles. Also, students will write poetry by using forms prevalent in Western and Eastern cultures that include but are not limited to the haiku, renga, ghazal, sijo, sonnet, villanelle, and sestina. Also, students will critically evaluate the success of their colleague's work and provide positive and constructive feedback for the purposes of revision. Finally, students will produce a portfolio of 10-12 poems and submit at least three poems to the *Absolute Literary Journal*, a creative writing journal sponsored by the Arts and Humanities Division at OCCC.

Grading Criteria:

Discussion Board Posts – 250 Points

Portfolio – 200 Points

Poetry Submission – 50 Points

Scale: | A = 500 – 448 | B = 447 – 398 | C = 397 – 348 | D = 347 – 298 | F = 297 – 0 |

Assessment of Student Learning:

Oklahoma City Community College is committed to providing quality educational experiences to all students and to striving for continuous improvement in its programs and services. Student assessment is vital to the educational process and can be of significant value to you and to the

students who follow you.

To ensure that adequate assessment information is available to allow OCCC to continuously improve programs and services, you may be asked to participate in personal interviews; take program and/or general education assessments, which could be tests; give oral presentations, write assignments, take surveys, or engage in other activities. You may be asked to complete the assessments, tests, and other activities during designated times, which may include class periods. These opportunities are your chance to help OCCC improve the courses, programs, and services which could affect you and will certainly impact students in the future.

Global Education:

Because we live in a global society and what we do in the United States affects the world, and what is done in other parts of the world impacts us, students will connect the selected readings or chapters or assignments in this course to real-life, global concerns. They will respond to issues from a variety of cultures and they will recognize the conflicts/issues are related to the issues in their own lives.

Students with Disabilities:

Oklahoma City Community College complies with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act. Students with disabilities who seek academic accommodations must make their request by: Contacting the Office of Student Support Services located on the first floor of the main building near entry 12, or call 682-7520.

Academic Dishonesty and Plagiarism:

Plagiarism consists of submitting work that is not entirely your own, copying/pasting from a website or other document without properly citing and quoting from the work, or submitting work that you have written in another course. Any form of cheating or academic dishonesty will result in a failing grade for the entire course and a written report to be filed in the office of the Associate Vice President of Academic Affairs.

Late Work:

All work should be turned in on time unless unusual circumstances exist and can be confirmed. If work should be turned in late for any reason, twenty percent may be subtracted from the assignment. After one week, assignments will not be accepted. No work may be submitted after the last day of class.

Official Withdrawal:

A student may officially withdraw from a credit class through the twelfth week of a 16-week course, or the sixth week of an 8-week course. A refund of full or partial fees will be due only in accordance with the College refund policy. The letter grade "W" will be shown on the official transcript for any student-initiated withdrawal after the schedule adjustment period.

Participation and Attendance:

Since this online course requires interactive discussions to promote learning opportunities and growth, all students are expected to participate fully within this course. If you miss assignments due to traveling, computer problems, an illness, or any unexpected event, it is your responsibility to turn in your work early or notify me through e-mail, voice mail, phone, or in person about your issue. If you miss more than 5 assignments in the course, your grade may automatically be lowered by 10%. If you miss more than 8 assignments, you may be failed from the course.

Internet Etiquette:

- Be courteous and show respect to others in their opinions and ideas.
- Sexual harassment or any form of discrimination will not be accepted in my class.
- Academically appropriate language is required at all times. Therefore, slang is not an acceptable form of communication in this course on emails, discussion boards, or essay assignments.

Discussion Boards:

Each week, I will assign a poem related to the reading selections for the week. You will post your poem on the discussion board and write a response to at least two colleagues per discussion board assignment. The responses should contain constructive criticism and help the writers improve their work in the course. Though you may not view yourself as a poet and, therefore, do not have the capacity to evaluate another person's poem, I disagree. By evaluating your colleague's work, you will develop a critical eye that will also improve your creative writing skills.

The Submission to the Absolute:

Another requirement for the course is to submit at least three of your best poems to the *Absolute Literary Anthology*, a creative writing journal hosted by the Arts and Humanities Division at Oklahoma City Community College. To attain more information on the Absolute, visit the following website: <http://www.occc.edu/ah/absolute/index.htm>. The Absolute Submission Form is also located at the above web address, but instead of submitting the work directly to the email address provided on the website, you will send me the form and poems to me through Web-Ct.

The Poetry Portfolio:

For your final project, you will develop a portfolio that showcases your poems you have written in my course (although you may also include other poems as well). You can present your portfolio in a variety of formats, including but not limited to: a bound book, a folder, a blog, a PowerPoint, a flash presentation, etc. You may also integrate visual elements. Your portfolio must include the following:

A Cover Page (Like all books, give your portfolio a catchy title. Do not title your work, "Portfolio." That is boring. Be creative here! Design your cover with an image if you like, but the image is not required.)

Preface Section (Similar to a book, the preface section gives you the opportunity to introduce your work to a reading audience. The preface section should be one page in length. It could discuss any of the following ideas: your growth as a poet, your philosophy of writing poetry, themes developed in the poetry portfolio, and/or your poetry/writing process. Don't feel as though you have to cover all of the above topics. These ideas represent springboards for creativity.)

Dedication Page (Most books dedicate their work to other people. This page will give you a chance to dedicate your work to a person or persons. This page should run no more than a few lines.)

Table of Contents (This page requires some word processing abilities. You want to create a table of contents that display the order of your book, including all poems and visual photographs added to your portfolio. IF you like, you do not have to create page numbers, but do look through various books at your home to see examples of table of contents.)

About the Author Section (Give us a brief biography—no more than a page—about yourself. If you like, you could incorporate a photograph of yourself, but this image is not required.)

Advertisement Section (The last page should be an advertisement of your portfolio, similar to the advertisements written on the back panel of most books. Be creative here! Use fictional names, if you like, of authors or great writers who recommend your work to the reading audience.)