

Tompkins Cortland Community College  
**Master Course Syllabus**

**Course Discipline and Number: ENGL 229**  
**Course Title: Introduction to Poetry**

**Year: 2023-2024**  
**Credit Hours: 3**

**Attendance Policy:** *To maintain good grades, regular attendance in class is necessary. Absence from class is considered a serious matter and absence never excuses a student from class work. It is the responsibility of all instructors to distribute reasonable attendance policies in writing during the first week of class. Students are required to comply with the attendance policy set by each of their instructors. Students are not penalized if they are unable to attend classes or participate in exams on particular days because of religious beliefs, in accordance with Chapter 161, Section 224-a of the Education Law of the State of New York. Students who plan to be absent from classroom activity for religious reasons should discuss the absence in advance with their instructors. See college catalog for more information.*

**Services for Students with Disabilities:** *It is the College's policy to provide, on an individual basis, appropriate academic adjustments for students with disabilities, which may affect their ability to fully participate in program or course activities or to meet course requirements. Students with disabilities should contact the Coordinator of Access and Equity Services, to discuss their particular need for accommodations. All course materials are available in alternate formats upon request.*

**Course Description**

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**Course Context/Audience**

This course serves to satisfy the requirements for the A.A. degree programs in Liberal Arts and Science -- Creative Writing: Poetry, Prose & Drama. It may also be taken to fulfill a humanities elective, liberal arts elective, or unrestricted elective requirement in numerous programs at the college.

**Basic Skills/Entry Level Expectations**

**Writing:** WC College level writing skills are required. See course co-requisites or pre-requisites.

**Math:** M1 Taking MATH 090 (if needed) – Course requires limited use of very basic mathematical skills.

**Reading:** R4 Before taking this course, students must satisfactorily complete RDNG 116 or have assessment indicating that no reading course was required.

**Course Goals**

This course is designed:

1. To enhance the student's knowledge of the poetic tradition in English and may include poetry in translation.
2. To sharpen the student's ability to analyze, appreciate and discuss poetic expression.
3. To expand the ability of the student to appreciate poetic quality and achievement.
4. To deepen the understanding of the student about himself/herself and the nature of his/her humanity.

**Course Objectives/Topics**

Objective/Topic	% Course
The student will read and analyze classic, modern and contemporary works of poetry.	50-70%
The student will examine critical perspectives on several poems and will present these perspectives for further discussion.	5-15%
The student will be able to demonstrate an understanding of the essential techniques of narrative and lyric poetry.	15-50%
The student will demonstrate familiarity with the themes and images of poetry through the centuries.	10-30%

The student will be able to identify some essential characteristics of major movements in English and American poetry.

5-30%

## General Education Goals - Critical Thinking & Social/Global Awareness

CRITICAL THINKING OUTCOMES	HOW DOES THE COURSE ADDRESS THE OUTCOMES (Include required or recommended instructional resources, strategies, learning activities, assignments, etc., that must or could be used to address the goal/outcomes)
<p>Students will be able to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ develop meaningful questions to address problems or issues.</li> <li>➤ gather, interpret, and evaluate relevant sources of information.</li> <li>➤ reach informed conclusions and solutions.</li> <li>➤ consider analytically the viewpoints of self and others.</li> </ul>	<p>Students are expected to interpret and evaluate poetry based on the elements of the genre, style and thematic content. Through reflective journaling, writing critical analysis essays, writing exercises in prosody and form, and focused group discussions, students will be able to develop meaningful questions to address issues relevant to the works of literature studied.</p> <p>Students are expected to find, comprehend, and integrate informed sources into their writing and discussions. This will be done through their literary research, focused discussions, critical analysis essays, and journals.</p> <p>Through peer collaboration and academic research, students are expected to reach informed conclusions in their interpretations and analysis of any given work of literature. This will be done through their literary research, focused discussions, critical analysis essays, writing exercises, and journals.</p> <p>Through focused discussions of the theoretical approaches to poetry, students will be able to analytically consider the viewpoints of themselves and others. This outcome will be addressed through collaborative peer discussions and reflective journaling.</p>
SOCIAL/GLOBAL AWARENESS OUTCOMES	HOW DOES THE COURSE ADDRESS THE OUTCOMES (Include required or recommended instructional resources, strategies, learning activities, assignments, etc., that must or could be used to address the goal/outcomes)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Students will begin to understand how their lives are shaped by the complex world in which they live.</li> <li>➤ Students will understand that their actions have social, economic and environmental consequences.</li> </ul>	<p>Through the study of common recurring themes in poetry, students will begin to understand how their lives are shaped by the complex world in which they live. This outcome will be addressed through reading assignments, reflective journals, and through focused group discussions.</p> <p>Through the study of classic, modern and contemporary works of poetry, students will learn – second hand – that their actions (like the actions of the protagonists they have studied) have these consequences. This outcome will be addressed through reflective journaling and peer collaboration.</p>

### Instructional Methods

This is a seminar course where discussion between instructor and students is critical. Methods that highlight student discussion of the poetry and various critical perspectives are most appropriate. The instructor should model through recordings or personal performances appropriate readings of the poetry under consideration.

## Methods of Assessment/Evaluation

Method	% Course Grade
Tests and quizzes may also be used to obtain factual responses from students as well as to provide further opportunities for students to offer discussion and analysis concerning poetic material.	10 -60%
Student presentations (oral or written) should constitute a significant amount of the student's grade.	20-80%
Attendance may also be used as a factor of evaluation	10-20%

## Text(s)

Required:

A Poetry Handbook by Mary Oliver; A Book of Luminous Things, Czeslaw Milosz, ed.

## Bibliography

A Handbook to Literature, Holman, C. Hugh, Prentice Hall, © 1991.

Norton Critical Editions of English Poetry

Twentieth Century Views of American and English Poets.

The Oxford Companion to Twentieth-Century Poetry in English, Ian Hamilton, ed.

The New Princeton Encyclopedia of Poetry and Poetics, Alex Preminger and T.V.F. Brogan, eds.

Best American Poetry series

101 Great American Poems: The American Poetry & Literacy Project

The Hand of the Poet: Poems and Papers in Manuscript by Rodney Phillips

## Other Learning Resources

### Audiovisual

The media desk at TC3 has several holdings of particular usefulness for professional reading of poetic works.

### Electronic

The internet offers considerable resources for the study of individual poets

### Other

No resources specified