

## **English 2230FG**

J. Doelman

Brescia University College

Winter 2016

Office: St. James 301B

Office Hours Mon. 1:00-2:30

Wed. 2:00-3:30

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### **Class times (Fall 2016):**

Tuesday 11:30-1:30 Room 14

Thursday, Thurs. 11:30-12:30 Room 14

### **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:** English 1020 or English 1027 and 1028, or permission of the instructor (do not hesitate to ask).

### **Course Objectives (a selection)**

Among other things, by the end of the course the successful student will be able to:

1. Understand and paraphrase a passage of poetry, however dense. (*Critical Thinking; Inquiry and Analysis*)
2. Correctly scan passages of verse in a wide variety of meters.
3. Recognize a variety of the rhetorical figures frequently used in poetry. (*Communication*)
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. (*Critical Thinking; Inquiry and Analysis*)
6. Analyse in well-written prose how the elements of a poem work together to achieve a cohesive effect. (*Critical Thinking; Inquiry and Analysis, Communication*)
7. Evaluate the overall effectiveness of an individual poem. (*Critical Thinking; Inquiry and Analysis*)
8. Perform poetry orally, with proper attention to its sense and sound. (*Communication*)

9. "To follow knowledge like a sinking star,/Beyond the utmost bound of human thought." (Tennyson)

(Italicized text in brackets identifies the relevant Brescia competencies.)

### **Texts**

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

Custom Coursepack of Readings. (Available through the UWO bookstore)

A web-posted package of poetry (on Owl Sakai), 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, any edition.

or

Abrams, M.H. A Glossary of Literary Terms. New York: Harcourt Brace, any edition.]

### **Evaluation**

Assignments, quizzes and tests	35%
Presentation	5%
In-class Poetry Analyses	20%
Essay (Due: Tues. Dec. 6)	20%
Final Exam	<u>20%</u>
	100%

[Students interested in writing poetry themselves may consider the Composition option: see "Composition Option" on Owl]

Student Presentations on individual poems will be scheduled between the middle of October and the end of November.

**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.

### **Academic Honesty**

PLAGIARISM of any kind is a serious academic offence. Be advised that electronic plagiarism-detection programmes will be used and essay banks checked, if the professor has any suspicion of 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 both in the body and at the end of the assignment. Any borrowings from secondary sources, whether wordings or ideas, must be acknowledged BOTH in the main body of your essay AND at the end in a bibliography or works cited! If you have any doubts about how to document your work correctly, check with your professor prior to handing in your essay.

### **Outline of Classes\***

(cc) means the reading is found in the *Custom Coursepack*

#### **Thurs. Sept. 8**

Introduction

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

History of poetic analysis.

Preliminary skills and tools for poetic analysis:

The sense of a poem

Diction: Dickinson, "There is no Frigate Like a Book", Edwin Arlington Robinson, "Richard Cory"

#### **Week of Sept. 12**

Using the *OED*

Other reference tools

**Reading:** Margaret Ferguson, "Poetic Syntax" (cc) [**Quiz, Tues. Sept. 13**];

Annotation Exercise (**to be submitted: Tues. Sept. 20**)

The value and danger of paraphrase

Donne, "Sweetest love, I do not go"

Paraphrase exercise (**to be submitted: Thurs. Sept. 29**)

The basics of prosody

[try the Interactive website, "For Better for Verse" (<http://prosody.lib.virginia.edu/>)]

Iambic tetrameter. Trochaic, anapestic and dactylic meters.

Byron, "She walks in beauty"

#### **Week of Sept. 19**

**Annotation Exercise Due Tues. Sept. 20**

**Reading:** Adams, Chapter 1 [**Quiz, Thurs. Sept. 22**]

Tolkien, selections from *The Lord of the Rings*

Housman, "On Wenlock Edge",

Charles Wolfe, "The Burial of Sir John Moore" (and the parody "Not a sou had he got" by Thomas Ingoldsby)

Felicia Hemans, "Casabianca"

**Secondary Reading:** A review of Catherine Robson, *Heart Beats: everyday life and the memorized poem*, at <http://www.poetryfoundation.org/poetrymagazine/article/249542>, and then pp. 113-18 from the book itself. (Available online through the [Weldon Library](http://lib.myilibrary.com.proxy1.lib.uwo.ca/Open.aspx?id=386240) <http://lib.myilibrary.com.proxy1.lib.uwo.ca/Open.aspx?id=386240>.)

### **Week of Sept. 26**

Iambic Pentameter

Anna L. Barbauld, "Washing Day",

The performance of poetry

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

**Sept. 27]**

**Reading: Adams, Chapter 2 [Quiz Thurs. Sept. 29]**

Rhyme, Meters and Forms

Pentameter couplets: Dryden, "To the Memory of Mr. Oldham", Frost, "A Brook in the City"

**Paraphrase exercise due Thurs. Sept. 29**

### **Week of Oct. 3**

**First Scansion quiz, Tues. Oct. 4**

Burns, "To a Mountain-Daisy"

John Crowe Ransom, "Bells for John Whiteside's Daughter"

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

**Reading:** W.K. Wimsatt, "One Relation of Rhyme to Reason" (cc) [**Quiz Thurs. Oct. 6]**

### **Week of Oct. 10**

**Second Scansion quiz, Tues. Oct. 11**

**Reading:** Adams, Chapter 3, Lisa M. Steinman, *Invitation to Poetry*, pp. 59-87 [on reserve at Brescia Library] [**Quiz Thurs. Oct. 13]**

The sonnet: Shakespeare, Sonnet 19: "Devouring Time",

Milton, "How soon hath time"

### **Week of Oct. 17**

Narrative Poetry

D.C. Scott, "On the Way to the Mission"

Dramatic Poetry and the question of voice

Robert Browning, "The Bishop orders his tomb"

**Reading:** Jonathan Culler, "Apostrophe" from *The Pursuit of Signs* (cc) [**Quiz Thurs. 20]**

### **Week of Oct. 24**

**Tues. Oct. 25 In-class Poetry Analysis #1**

[Thurs. Oct. 27 is Fall Study Break]

### **Week of Oct. 31**

Rhetorical Analysis/Figures of Speech

Milton, "On Shakespeare", Christina Rossetti, "No thing is great",  
Herbert, "Sin's Round", C. Rossetti, "Mirage"

**Reading:** Adams, Chapter 4 (to p. 132) [**Quiz Thurs. Nov. 3**]

### **Week of Nov. 7**

**Tues. Nov. 7: Statement of Intent and Preliminary Bibliography for Essay due**

Diction and Non-figurative imagery

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

Browning, "Meeting at Night"

Eliot, "Preludes"

**Reading:** Adams, Chapter 4 (pp. 132 to 147) [**Quiz: Thurs. Nov. 10**]

### **Week of Nov. 14**

**Tues. Nov. 15: In-class Poetry Analysis #2**

Metaphor and simile

Campion, "There is a Garden in her Face", Richard Wilbur, "A Simile for her Smile"  
(read also the brief commentary at

[https://www.google.ca/search?q="A+Simile+for+her+Smile"&ie=utf-8&oe=utf-8&gws\\_rd=cr&ei=u1VgVv-IJMH2-AGqz5aYQCQ](https://www.google.ca/search?q=))

Symons, "In the Wood of Finvara"

Wordsworth "To the Daisy"

**Reading:** George Lakoff & Mark Turner, "Life, Death and Time" from *More than Cool Reason*. (cc) [**Quiz: Thurs. Nov. 17**]

### **Week of Nov. 21**

Personification, Allegory and Symbolism

W.E. Henley, "Madam Life"

**Reading:** Adams, Chapt. 5; [**Quiz: Thurs., Nov. 24**]

### **Week of Nov. 28**

Free Verse

Whitman, "To a Locomotive in Winter"

Free Verse (cont.)

Pound, "The River-Merchant's Wife"

**Reading:** Hartman, "Counterpoint" (cc) [**Quiz: Thurs. Dec. 1**]

### **Tues. Dec. 6**

Plath, "Black Rook in Rainy Weather"

**(Essay due: at beginning of class)**

\*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.

## 2016-17 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 for illness 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. Minor ailments typically treated by over-the-counter medications will not normally be accommodated. Documentation shall be submitted as soon as possible to the student's Academic Advisor indicating the period of illness and when the student should be able to resume academic responsibilities. Students must submit their documentation along with a request for relief specifying the nature of the accommodation being requested no later than two business days after the date specified for resuming 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. A UWO Student Medical Certificate (SMC) is **required** if a student is seeking academic accommodation on medical grounds. This documentation should be obtained at the time of the initial consultation with the physician/nurse practitioner or walk-in clinic. A SMC can be downloaded from: <http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2016/pg117.html> 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 documentation stating simply that the student "was seen for a medical reason" or "was ill" is **not** adequate to support a request for academic accommodation.

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 policy on requesting accommodation due to illness can be viewed at:

[http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/accommodation\\_illness.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_illness.pdf)

### 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](http://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 (<http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2016/pg130.html> )

### 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**

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following Web site:

<http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2016/pg113.html>

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 Student Academic Appeals under Academic Rights and Responsibilities in the Western Academic Calendar ( <http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2016/pg112.html> )

#### **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 prerequisite(s). 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://brescia.uwo.ca/academics/registrar-services/>. The website for the Student Development Centre at Western is at <http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/>. Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health @ Western [http://uwo.ca/health/mental\\_wellbeing/](http://uwo.ca/health/mental_wellbeing/) for information including a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

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. **f Western Ontario.**