

# ENG 220: Modern Poetry

Instructor: Mrs. Cheryl Metcalf

## Course Overview

**ENG 220: Modern Poetry** is designed to expose students to the prosody of modern poetry, its poets, and the chronological, historical, and humanitarian significance of poetry. The scansion and mechanics of poetry, such as images and sounds, will be given intense observation. Analysis and interpretation will be given through formal writing, assigned readings, class discussions, and presentations. The poetic analysis will assist students in developing their understanding and appreciation of the genre, form, and theme.

Students are expected to commit to dedicated study, research, and cognitive self-evaluation. Effective time management will be required considering the demanding curriculum, writing, and reading assignments. Students must enter the course with a command of the English language, grammar, and mechanics.

## Reading and Writing Assignments

**Reading Assignments** run continuously throughout the course. An important element for understanding discussions, lectures, and writing assignments is a dedication by students to critically read all assignments on time. Short cuts to reading, such as viewing a movie, reading explanatory notes, or other vices in replacement of accomplishing the actual reading assignments, will set the student up for failure.

**Writing Assignments** will coincide with all readings. Students will write a variety of assignments, critical and creative. Students are expected to proofread, revise, and edit all work before submitting the final draft for grading. Students may inquire peer editing but all work must be the student's original work. Papers are due and accepted before/on the "due date." Papers will not be graded after the given "due date" regardless of excused or unexcused absence. Any papers received after the due date will be given 50% of the given credit for the assignment with no critique or evaluation of the work. All writing assignments must be the original work of the students.

## Classroom Discussions

**Classroom Discussions** will be an engagement of ideas among students with facilitating direction from the instructor. Students are required to complete all reading assignments and notetaking in this course to be prepared for effective classroom discussions. Prepared classroom discussions are an important element for effective communication.

## Course Rationale

Understanding the impact and importance of the humanitarian purpose of modern poetry will equip student to analyze and understand the poets' intent. By reading the works of famed poets, the history of that time, and the mechanics used, students will gain a better and more thorough understanding of modern poetry and its purpose. In addition, the skills acquired in this course will help to prepare students for the nuance of communication in the professional world. In relation to EGCC's college-wide outcomes, this course incorporates activities, assignments, and exercises that develop and improve students' language literacy and cultural literacy.

## Teaching Methods, Aids, and Equipment

Several methods of teaching techniques will be used during the course. These include lectures, tests, quizzes, discussion, practice writing, formal assignments, presentations, and collaborative work. Student access to the Internet will be required and an online device that has use of Microsoft Office is needed. Textbooks, handouts, novel(s) will be either made available or assigned to acquire previous to needed use.

## Student Responsibilities

1. Effective note taking.
2. Completing quizzes and assignments.
3. Being prepared for classroom discussions.
4. Regularly check-in to the classroom website for any updates.
5. Submit work via online [www.metcalffclassroom.com](http://www.metcalffclassroom.com) when required.
6. Present clean, neat work that adheres to the assigned requirements.
7. Exercise presentation skills, such as eye contact, poise, and effective speech.

## Course Outcomes

1. Ability to analyze and interpret modern poetry.
2. Acquisition of familiarity with the mechanics of poetry.
3. Advanced skill in writing clearly about modern poetry, using appropriate textual evidence.
4. Awareness of the discussions and discourses of those who are expert in analyzing and critiquing literary texts.
5. Developed understanding of the many ways human beings respond to life experiences and give meaning to these experiences through art, specifically modern poetry.

## Course Objectives

1. Gain overall knowledge of genre, form, and theme of modern poetry.

2. Improve general ability to comprehend, appreciate and enjoy poetry.
3. Develop an ability to compose poetic expression.
4. Gain skill in participating in discussion activities.
5. Communicate through the written, spoken, and visual expression.

## Assessments

1. Read assigned selections and be prepared, with notes, for classroom discussion.
2. Complete in-class activities as assigned.
3. Complete tests as assigned.
4. Complete written assignments as assigned.

Please note that an assignment from this course may be used to assess Eastern Gateway Community College's general education outcomes.

## Course Materials

*The Norton Introduction to Poetry*, 9<sup>th</sup> edition  
*A Poetry Handbook* by Mary Oliver  
Online access to poetry, research, presentations, etc.

## Course Policies

Papers are due and accepted before/on the "due date." Papers will not be graded after the given "due date" regardless of excused or unexcused absence. Any papers received after the due date will be given 50% of the given credit for the assignment with no critique or evaluation of the work. Students are responsible for all material covered in class; quizzes are unannounced. All papers must be typed.

## Student Evaluation

### Grading Policy

90 – 100 = A 80 – 89 = B 70 – 79 = C 60 – 69 = D

0 – 59 = F

## Contact Information

Late work = 50 %

Plagiarized work will result in a failing grade and possible expulsion from the course. All academic dishonestly will be documented.

Students may contact me in person in Room 314 or online by posting a “Question” on the classroom website [www.metcalffclassroom.com](http://www.metcalffclassroom.com) In addition I can be reached by emailing me at [teacher@metcalffclassroom.com](mailto:teacher@metcalffclassroom.com) or [cmetcalf@rollred.org](mailto:cmetcalf@rollred.org) or by calling (740) 282-9741 ext, 1314.

The above syllabus is subject to change based upon the instructor’s discretion.