

Northwestern Connecticut Community College
COURSE SYLLABUS

Course Description: This upper level course provides a broad-swath introduction to the genre of poetic works in English and American literature. This course will be divided into many specific parts: What poetry is and how it differs from other literary forms; how it evolved (the tradition of poetry); what special skills are needed to understand it; and what purpose it serves in a utilitarian culture. Students in this course will read, analyze and discuss poems.

Pre-requisite/Co-requisite: Successful completion of English 102

Goals:

- Demonstrate the ability to read with understanding and perception while specifically demonstrating the skills necessary to analyze works of poetry for thematic content;
- Recognize the relationship between the genre of poetry and the interpreted messages;
- Write critical explications of literary works;
- Communicate literary analyses with clarity and effectiveness.

Outcomes: Upon completion of English 213 a student will:

- Recognize poetry from a variety of cultures, languages and historic periods
- Understand and appreciate poetry as a literary art form
- Analyze the various elements of poetry, such as diction, tone, form, genre, imagery, figures of speech, symbolism, theme, etc.
- Identify a variety of forms and genres of poetry from diverse cultures and historic periods, such as haiku, tanka, sonnets, ballads, dramatic monologues, free verse, etc.
- Recognize the rhythms, metrics and other musical aspects of poetry
- Read and discuss selected poems in translation
- Apply the principles of literary criticism to the analysis of poetry
- Broaden their vocabularies and to develop an appreciation of language and its connotations and denotations
- Develop their critical thinking skills
- Develop a deeper appreciation of cultural diversity by introducing them to poetry from a variety of cultures throughout the world
- Develop their own creativity and enhance their writing skills