

Poetry 2013-2014 Course Syllabus

Texts: various print and electronic sources

Course Description: This class will be a one semester weighted course offered to any student who has passed Basic Rhetoric and Composition. Preference will be given to seniors and sophomores who are required to choose elective courses in the English department. This class will be writing and discussion- based, but the instructor will lecture when necessary to provide relevant historical, cultural, political, or technical information. Students will recite verse from memory, analyze and scan poems, write poetry, and write essays on thematic and informal topics. Quizzes will be given, but at the teacher's discretion. Tests will be performance-based, which will include students not only applying knowledge learned in class, but also creating new, quality pieces as well as revising old pieces. Also, students will complete a portfolio throughout the semester, which will be worth over 500 points, and will be turned in near the end of the semester. Throughout the class, students will be given workdays and opportunities to work on this portfolio, but much of the work will be expected to be completed outside of class.

Expectations:

Students will be required to have the following materials in class every day: pen or pencil, notebook, any necessary books, and computer. Students who have missed class need to check with the teacher for their assignments. Parents are encouraged to check the Parent Connect site regularly. Students and parents are encouraged to use <http://mrsingramrocks.blogspot.com> to check class progress and homework assignments.

Homework not turned in at the beginning of the period will be considered late. Missed quizzes or tests are the student's responsibility and must be made up according to school policy, which can be found in the student handbook on the school website.

All homework assignments should be turned in electronically and in hard copy.

Plagiarism: Any instance of plagiarism will result in a zero for the assignment. No makeup assignments will be given. Plagiarism includes but is not limited to: copying as little as four words of someone else's writing and claiming it as your own (by not using quotation marks and citations in the correct places). Students who write documents *for* other students are also participating in plagiarism by willingly allowing another student to claim credit for that work. That student will also receive a zero for the assignment.

Grading: The following weights will apply to the final grades for this course, and a final exam worth 20% of the semester grade will be required of all students.

Papers 40% (Your portfolio is included here)

Homework 30%

Tests 20%

Quizzes 10%

This course uses the school-wide grading scale.

Topics covered (include but are not limited to):

Forms of poetry

Meter

Sentence structure

Modeling

Scansion

Free verse

British and American poets

Contemporary poetry

Themes Imagery

Analysis Papers will be graded using the following rubric:

Analysis Paper

50 points

- _____ Paper mentions the book title and author in the first paragraph.
- _____ Paper includes a thesis that utilizes analysis.
- _____ Paper's thesis chooses a side of an argument.
- _____ Paper meets length requirement.
- _____ Paper uses proper MLA format throughout.
- _____ Paper is turned in on time.
- _____ Paper is double spaced.
- _____ Paper has introduction and conclusion.
- _____ Paper includes a correct Works Cited page.
- _____ Paper uses quotes or ideas from the poem.
- _____ Paper consists of little summary.
- _____ Paper consists mostly of analysis with examples to prove a point.
- _____ Paper is cohesive.
- _____ Paper is coherent.
- _____ Paper has fewer than 10 spelling and grammar errors.

See other comments in paper.