ENGL3301: Creative Writing: Poetry and Poetics

Online

Semester 1 - 2024

The School of Humanities, Creative Industries and Social Sciences is committed to providing an inclusive environment in which all cultures are accorded respect and all students and staff are expected to act with honesty, fairness, trustworthiness and accountability in dealings with others. The School recognises and respects the unique histories and cultures of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, their unbroken relationship with the lands and the waters of Australia over millennia, and the validity of Aboriginal ways of knowing. We are dedicated to reconciliation and to offering opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to access and succeed in higher education.

OVERVIEW

Course Description	This course explores the various forms of poetry and the poetic ideas which inform them. Traditional as well as open forms are examined in detail, supplemented by readings of poetic theory from a historical range of sources. Students will learn about the nexus between theory and creative practice. They will study the specialised skills and techniques that turn an experience or memory into a compelling poem.
Academic Progress Requirements	Nil
Contact Hours	**Online** **Seminar** Online 2 hour(s) per week(s) for 12 week(s) starting Week 1
Unit Weighting	10
Workload	Students are required to spend on average 120-140 hours of effort (contact and non-contact) including assessments per 10 unit course.

CONTACTS

Course Coordinator	**Online** Dr David Musgrave David.Musgrave@newcastle.edu.au (02) 4348 4056 Consultation: by email appointment
Teaching Staff	Other teaching staff will be advised on the course Canvas site.
School Office	**School of Humanities Creative Industries and Social Sciences** Social Sciences Building Callaghan HCISS@newcastle.edu.au +61 4985 4500

SYLLABUS

Course Content

Poetry is an integral part of major creative writing programs. As good poets devour poetry all the time, students will embark on an intensive reading program, reading poetry from a variety of periods. They will study postmodern and contemporary trends and be encouraged to be more experimental in poem-making. The reading will enhance their critical skills in assessing their own work and that of their fellow students. They will learn to work with drafts and envision their work as a coherent collection. Particular attention will be paid to

- Developments in Australian and world poetry
- Discovering literary models
- Envisioning the portfolio as a coherent collection
- Working with drafts, revising and editing.

Course Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Identify a range of different forms of poetry.

2. Discuss key techniques involved in shaping a poem.

3. Evaluate the poetic ideas and theories which inform particular kinds of poetry.

4. Apply core skills in written communication, in textual analysis and in creative practice.

5. Develop a creative voice of their own through exposure to an array of local and global texts.

Course Materials

Required Text:
- Jordie Albiston, *The Weekly Poem* (Puncher & Wattmann, 2014)

Other lecture materials readings and other content will be available on the course Canvas website.

SCHEDULE

Week	Week Begins	Topic	Learning Activity	Assessment Due
1	26 Feb	The Basics of Poetry	Read Archibald McLeish, 'Ars Poetica' (Canvas) Ars Poetica William Shakespeare, 'Sonnet 18' (Canvas) Sonnet 18: Shall I compare thee to a summer's day?	
2	4 Mar	Finding the Line	Paul Muldoon, 'Meeting the British' (Canvas), Marianne Moore 'He Digesteth Harde Yron' (Canvas)	Lineation exercise (Canvas) Funk it Up 1: The Terminal (Canvas) 'Garb T-Shirt' (Canvas)
3	11 Mar	The Lyric	Simon West Poems (Canvas) Bonny Cassidy Poems (Canvas)	Funk it Up 2: the compositional method of Deer Head Nation (Canvas)
4	18 Mar	Fixed Forms: the Sonnet	Read John Tranter 'A Hard Art' (The Weekly Poem); William Wordsworth, 'Composed on Westminster Bridge' (The Weekly Poem); Zora Cross, 'Love Sonnet XLIX' (The Weekly Poem); Dorothy Hewett 'Sonnet 3, The Upside down sonnets' https://www.poetrylibrary.edu.au/poets/hewett-dorothy/poems/the-upside-down-sonnets-0050183 Paul Muldoon, 'Ma', Ted Berrigan 'Sonnet II' (Canvas)	Funk it Up 3: Transcribing Cacophony (Canvas)
5	25 Mar	Fixed Forms: The Ode	Read John Keats, 'To Autumn' (The Weekly Poem), John Forbes, 'Death: An Ode' (The Weekly Poem); John Forbes, 'Ode to Karl Marx' (Canvas)	Funk it Up 4: The Cut-Up (Canvas) Read 'The Bystander Effect' (Canvas) and 'There is a Dominant Finch' (Canvas) **Assignment 1 Short Portfolio due Friday 30th March 11:59PM.**
6	1 Apr	Fixed Forms: The Elegy & The Ghazal	W. H. Auden, 'In Memory of W.B. Yeats' (The Weekly Poem) Thomas Gray, 'Elegy Written in a Country Churchyard' "Elegy Written in a Country Churchyard" by Thomas Gray (read by Tom O'Bedlam) - YouTube (Canvas); John Hollander 'Ghazal on Ghazals' (The Weekly Poem)	Funk it Up 5: Hetero-homophonic translation (Canvas)
7	8 Apr	The Found Poem	David Musgrave, 'The Water in Japan' (Canvas); Lisa Gorton, 'Graffiti' (The Weekly Poem); 'The Poetry of Donald Rumsfeld' (Canvas); Phil Rizzutto, 'The Man in the Moon' (Canvas); Libby Hart, 'Overheard Conversations'	Funk it Up 6: Speech (Mis)Recognition (Canvas)

			(The Weekly Poem); Richard Tipping, 'How Not to Masturbate' (The Weekly Poem); 'The Poetry of Donald Trump' ([The Beautiful Poetry of Donald Trump: 'These people are losers' - YouTube](#)) (Canvas)	
			Mid-Semester Recess	
			Mid-Semester Recess	
8	29 Apr	The Ekphrastic/Snapshot Poem	Ian MacBryde, 'The Still Company' (The Weekly Poem); Petra White, 'Lady's Informal Robe' (The Weekly Poem); Peter Porter, 'Phar Lap in the Melbourne Museum' (The Weekly Poem); W.H. Auden 'Museum des Beaux Artes' (W H Auden reads 'Musee Des Beaux Artes') (Canvas)	Funk it Up 7: The Dictionary Game (Canvas)
9	6 May	The List Poem	Les Murray, 'The Broadbean Sermon' (Canvas); Gig Ryan, 'If I Had a Gun' (The Weekly Poem);	Funk it Up 8: The Chance Acrostic (Canvas)
10	13 May	Myth and Archetype	Kathryn Lomer, 'Ophelia' (The Weekly Poem); Diane Fahey, 'Andromeda' (The Weekly Poem); Alex Skovron, 'Sisyphus' (The Weekly Poem); Christopher Smart, 'Jubilate Agno: Fragment C' (Canvas); Pablo Neruda, 'Ode to the Cat' (Canvas); David Musgrave, 'Glenrowan' (Canvas).	Funk it Up 9: Meaning Eater (Canvas)
11	20 May	Pastoral/Anti-Pastoral	James Longenbach, Arcadia' (Canvas); Philip Salom poems (Canvas). Poems by Theocritus (Canvas) Nicholas Poussin, 'Et in Arcadia Ego' (Canvas)	Funk it Up 10: Phonemic rearrangement (Canvas)
12	27 May	The Prose Poem	Carolyn Forché, 'The Colonel' (Canvas); Alex Skovron prose poems (Canvas);	**Final Portfolio and Reflective Essay due Friday 1st June 11:59 PM**
13	3 Jun	The Ekphrastic/Snapshot Poem	Ian MacBryde, 'The Still Company' (The Weekly Poem); Petra White, 'Lady's Informal Robe' (The Weekly Poem); Peter Porter, 'Phar Lap in the Melbourne Museum' (The Weekly Poem); W.H. Auden 'Museum des Beaux Artes' (W H Auden reads 'Musee Des Beaux Artes') (Canvas)	Funk it Up 7: The Dictionary Game (Canvas)
			Examination Period	
			Examination Period	

ASSESSMENTS

This course has 3 assessments. Each assessment is described in more detail in the sections below.

	Assessment Name	Due Date	Involvement	Weighting	Learning Outcomes
1	Short Portfolio	Friday 30fh March 11:59pm	Individual	25%	1, 2, 4, 5
2	Reflective Essay	Friday 1st June 11:59pm	Individual	25%	1, 2, 3, 4, 5
3	Final Portfolio	Friday 1st June 11:59pm	Individual	50%	1, 2, 4, 5

Late Submissions The mark for an assessment item submitted after the designated time on the due date, without an approved extension of time, will be reduced by 10% of the possible maximum mark for that assessment item for each day or part day that the assessment item is late. Note: this applies equally to week and weekend days.

Assessment 1 - Short Portfolio

Assessment Type Portfolio
Purpose Demonstrate principles of poetry learned in the first six weeks of the course.
Description Poems can be new material or be re-worked versions of poems already workshopped - if the latter they should show signs of significant revision.
Weighting 25%
Length 2 A4 Pages, single column (see assessment guidelines).
Due Date Friday 30fh March 11:59pm
Submission Method Online
Assessment Criteria See Rubric on Canvas
Return Method Online
Feedback Provided Online - Friday 19th April.

Assessment 2 - Reflective Essay

Assessment Type Essay
Purpose Demonstrate critical insight into poetic practice and theory
Description A critical reflection on the final portfolio including a detailed critical comparison and/or discussion of at least one of the poems from The Weekly Poem or another poem studied in class.
Weighting 25%
Length 1,000 words
Due Date Friday 1st June 11:59pm
Submission Method Online
Assessment Criteria See Rubric on Canvas
Return Method Online
Feedback Provided Online - Friday 21st June.

Assessment 3 - Final Portfolio

Assessment Type Portfolio
Purpose Demonstrate principles of poetry learned throughout the course.
Description Poems can be entirely new material or significantly reworked poems from the workshops
Weighting 50%
Length 8 A4 Pages, single column (see assessment guidelines).
Due Date Friday 1st June 11:59pm
Submission Method Online
Assessment Criteria See Rubric on Canvas
Return Method Online
Feedback Provided Online - Friday 21st June.

This course is graded as follows:

*Skills are those identified for the purposes of assessment task(s).

Grading Scheme

Range of Marks	Grade	Description
85-100	High Distinction (HD)	Outstanding standard indicating comprehensive knowledge and understanding of the relevant materials; demonstration of an outstanding level of academic achievement; mastery of skills*; and achievement of all assessment objectives.
75-84	Distinction (D)	Excellent standard indicating a very high level of knowledge and understanding of the relevant materials; demonstration of a very high level of academic ability; sound development of skills*; and achievement of all assessment objectives.
65-74	Credit (C)	Good standard indicating a high level of knowledge and understanding of the relevant materials; demonstration of a high level of academic achievement; reasonable development of skills*; and achievement of all learning outcomes.
50-64	Pass (P)	Satisfactory standard indicating an adequate knowledge and understanding of the relevant materials; demonstration of an adequate level of academic achievement; satisfactory development of skills*; and achievement of all learning outcomes.
0-49	Fail (FF)	Failure to satisfactorily achieve learning outcomes. If all compulsory course components are not completed the mark will be zero. A fail grade may also be awarded following disciplinary action.

Communication Methods	Communication methods used in this course include: - Email: Students will receive communications via their student email account. - Canvas Course Site: Students will receive communications via the posting of content or announcements on the Canvas course site.
Course Evaluation	Each year feedback is sought from students and other stakeholders about the courses offered in the University for the purposes of identifying areas of excellence and potential improvement.
Oral Interviews (Vivas)	As part of the evaluation process of any assessment item in this course an oral examination (viva) may be conducted. The purpose of the oral examination is to verify the authorship of the material submitted in response to the assessment task. The oral examination will be conducted in accordance with the principles set out in the Oral Examination (viva) Procedure. In cases where the oral examination reveals the assessment item may not be the student's own work the case will be dealt with under the Student Conduct Rule.
Academic Misconduct	All students are required to meet the academic integrity standards of the University. These standards reinforce the importance of integrity and honesty in an academic environment. Academic Integrity policies apply to all students of the University in all modes of study and in all locations. For the Student Academic Integrity Policy, refer to https://policies.newcastle.edu.au/document/view-current.php?id=35 .
Adverse Circumstances	The University acknowledges the right of students to seek consideration for the impact of allowable adverse circumstances that may affect their performance in assessment item(s). Applications for special consideration due to adverse circumstances will be made using the online Adverse Circumstances system where: 1. the assessment item is a major assessment item; or 2. the assessment item is a minor assessment item and the Course Co-ordinator has specified in the Course Outline that students may apply the online Adverse Circumstances system; 3. you are requesting a change of placement; or 4. the course has a compulsory attendance requirement. Before applying you must refer to the Adverse Circumstance Affecting Assessment Items Procedure available at: https://policies.newcastle.edu.au/document/view-current.php?id=236

| **Important Policy Information** | The Help button in the Canvas Navigation menu contains helpful information for using the Learning Management System. Students should familiarise themselves with the policies and procedures at https://www.newcastle.edu.au/current-students/respect-at-uni/policies-and-procedures that support a safe and respectful environment at the University. |