**Introduction to Poetry Syllabus**

**Instructor**
Patrick Morrissey

**Email**
pfmorrissey@uchicago.edu

**Quarter:** Summer 2022
**Start – end date:** Jun 21st – Aug 9th

**Session day/time:** Tuesday, 1:30PM – 4:00PM

**Course Code and Section:** WRIT11800 22U1

---

**Course Overview**
In this course, we will explore and experiment with some fundamental elements of poetry: form, imagery, and the musical qualities of language. Guided by the work of four modern poets—William Carlos Williams, Lorine Niedecker, Gwendolyn Brooks, and James Schuyler—as well as a variety of writing prompts and exercises, you will write, revise, and share your poems in a collaborative workshop setting.

**Course Materials**
All our readings will be available electronically, mostly as links embedded in our Canvas syllabus. I will also provide several readings as PDFs in the “Modules” section of our Canvas site. Please completed the readings listed for each week before that week’s meeting.

---

**Course readings**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Reading Assignment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 1</td>
<td>William Carlos Williams</td>
<td>“The Great Figure”, “By the Road to the Contagious Hospital,” “The Red Wheelbarrow,” “Between Walls,” “This is Just to Say,” “To a Poor Old Woman,” “Poem (As the cat...)”,” “Flowers by the Sea”; “The Locust Tree in Flower” (both versions, PDF), biographical intro to Williams</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 2</td>
<td>Lorine Niedecker</td>
<td>“Remember my little granite pail,” “There’s a better shine,” “Poet’s Work,” “Get a load,” “My Life by Water”, “Traces of Living Things,” “Paean to Place” (PDF); biographical intro to Niedecker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 3</td>
<td>Gwendolyn Brooks</td>
<td>“kitchenette building,” “the rites for Cousin Vit,” “a song in the front yard,” “The Bean Eaters,” “Boy Breaking Glass,”</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Accessing remote courses

Remote courses are taught through our Canvas platform. Approximately two weeks before your class begins, we will add you to your canvas site using the email address you provided at the time of registration. An invitation will then be sent to that email. Click the “Get Started” button in the email to begin the Canvas login process. For step-by-step instructions, please visit https://grahamschool.uchicago.edu/academic-programs/online/learning-resources/liberal-arts. Once you’ve created your Canvas account, you can access any Graham School canvas course for which you are registered at: https://canvas.uchicago.edu.

Accessibility information

Student Disability Services (SDS) works to provide resources, support and accommodations for all students with disabilities and works to remove physical and attitudinal barriers, which may prevent their full participation in the University community. Students that would like to request accommodations should contact SDS in advance of the first class session at 773.702.6000 or disabilities@uchicago.edu.

UChicago CARES Statement:

The University and its faculty are committed to creating a safer and more inclusive learning environment for all students. At the University, all faculty, staff, graduate student instructors, and teaching assistants are considered “Individuals with Reporting Responsibilities” and are required to let the University’s Title IX Coordinator know about any disclosures they receive from students about experiences of sexual misconduct (including sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, stalking, and sexual harassment). This includes disclosures of experiences that happened before their time at the University. This is to ensure that all students
who have experienced sexual misconduct receive support, options, and information about their rights and resources. Students are not obligated to respond to this outreach, and this will not generate a report to law enforcement.

For more information, please see this handout for students as well as the University’s Policy on Harassment, Discrimination and Sexual Misconduct and Policy on Title IX Sexual Harassment. You can also reach out directly for services and support from the Office for Sexual Misconduct Prevention and Support by emailing titleix@uchicago.edu.

If you, or another student you know, wishes to speak to a confidential resource who does not have this reporting responsibility, please contact the Sexual Assault Dean on Call through the UChicago Safe App or at 773.834-HELP.

Questions? Contact Zoë Eisenman at zme1@uchicago.edu.