Welcome to English 205: Introduction to Poetry

Spring 2020  CRN: 33666
January 21st--May 21st.

“We all write poems; it is simply that poets are the ones who write in words”—John Fowles

“To have great poets, there must be great audiences”—Walt Whitman

“Does it mean this, does it mean that, that's all anybody wants to know. F%^$ them, darling. I say what any decent poet would say if you dared ask him to analyze his work: If you see it, dear, then it's there. –Freddie Mercury

Welcome potential students! My name is Professor Matthew Fleming, and I look forward to working with you this semester. In this course, we will explore poetry in all its forms, from the ancient texts of Beowulf and Homer’s Odyssey through Shakespeare’s poetry, along to the Romantic and Victorian Poets, Modernists and Post-Modernist. We will also link a lot of contemporary music and poetry examples to these more traditional versions of poetry.

Professor: Matthew Fleming
Email: mfleming@cuesta.edu

Distance Education Course: We have no face-to-face meetings, only virtual.
Spring 2020, Course Start and End Dates: January 21st--May 21st.

Please login to Canvas on Tuesday January 21st and begin working in the class. If you have not logged in by January 24th by 10:00 a.m., you will be dropped from the course.
What you should know

- This course is **18 weeks** of intensive study
- We have no face-to-face meetings
- You must participate in this course on an almost **every-other-day** basis
- You must write a minimum of 400 words a week in online forums
- You will have homework assignments and readings due every Monday.
- You will be dropped if you fail to log in for more than 7 days and/or if your postings-to-forum or postings-to-homework percentage falls below 50%.

**Required Text:**
No Required Text!

**Required Regular and Effective Contact:**

This course requires regular and effective contact among all students and the instructor for the full 18 weeks of the course. We will achieve this in a variety of ways:

- throughout the week postings in discussion and homework forums in Canvas
- weekly book homework readings and submissions,
- interactive online essay work-shopping through Canvas forums
- viewing of short video lectures and content
- writing of a series of essays using turnitin.com

**Course Learning Management System (LMS):** Canvas

We will be using the Learning Management System (Canvas), so please feel free to ask questions, look up youtube videos on how Canvas works, and contact our support desk when needing help: Send an email to **support@my.cuesta.edu**

- Include your name, class, section number (CRN), instructor’s name.
- Describe the problem you are experiencing.

**Course Description:**

Introduces students to the formal and stylistic elements of poetry, providing them with a shared vocabulary for recognizing and analyzing different literary forms, and developing their reading, writing, and critical discussion skills by analyzing exemplary texts from a variety of historical periods, genres, and cultures.

Prerequisite: ENGL 201A. Transfer: CSU; UC.
Student Learning Outcomes:

1. Recognize the formal properties of poetry (rhythm and meter) and the effect they have on meaning.
2. Identify poetic devices such as alliteration, metaphor, and synesthesia and how these devices contribute to a poem’s sound and/or meaning.
3. Identify and explain the various poetic forms such as sonnets, odes, and epics.
4. Demonstrate understanding of individual poems and poets in their historical, social, economic, cultural, and political contexts (epochs/literary periods).
5. Utilize clear and coherent interpretive arguments and/or analyses on the form and content of poetry supported by textual evidence, employing the conventions of academic writing.

PLEASE REVIEW THE IMPORTANT INFORMATION AND RESOURCES BELOW!!!

Canvas Browser requirements/minimum computer specifications:

https://www.cuesta.edu/academics/distance/faqs_technical.html

Academic Policies (add, drop, waitlist, academic honesty, etc.):

https://www.cuesta.edu/student/studentservices/admrreg/arpolicies/index.html

Distance Education Support:

https://www.cuesta.edu/academics/distance/technical_support.html

Disabled Student Services Program:

If you have a disability and might need accommodations (support services) in this class, please contact Disabled Student Program & Services in Building 3300 as soon as possible to ensure that you receive the accommodations in a timely manner.

https://www.cuesta.edu/student/studentservices/dspsl/index.html