ENG 465-A01: ADVANCED POETRY WORKSHOP ONLINE  Winter 2015

Professor Katharine Whitcomb
ONLINE
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**Required Texts:**

Diane Lockward  *The Crafty Poet: A Portable Workshop*

Sherman Alexie  *Face*

Mark Wunderlich  *The Earth Avails*

Olena Kalytiak Davis  *The Poem She Didn’t Write and Other Poems*

C.D. Wright  *One With Others*

Poems written by you and your classmates serve as an integral text for this class.

**Course Description:**

Hello poets! Welcome to advanced poetry writing workshop. The important focus of this class is the writing workshop, where we discuss your poems and those of your peers. We will be honing, practicing and learning the most helpful ways to approach creative work.

In addition to your own poetry, we will be looking closely at poems by a group of contemporary poets---brilliant, varied voices in the poetry world. We’ll be examining craft, form, voice, style and considering the choices the poets made while writing these books. Ultimately, you can use their examples as jumping off points for possibilities in your own work.

We will be practicing techniques and experimenting with form, occasion, and various poetic techniques and experiments using *The Crafty Poet* for exercises and poem assignments.

You’ll each get a chance to post a PowerPoint presentation to the class of a detailed explication of a poem from our reading, and to express your critical writer’s opinion in a review-style paper.

I look forward to working with each of you.
Major Projects and Grading:

Homework Poetry Exercises 15% of grade
Poem drafts and Discussion Comments for Workshop 25% of grade
Reading Quizzes 10% of grade
Weekly Check-Ins with Professor 5% of grade
PowerPoint Presentation 10% of grade
5-page Paper 15% of grade
Final Poetry Portfolio 25% of grade
(4 substantially revised workshop assignment poems and 3 revised poems developed from a homework exercise).

There will be NO acceptance of late exercises or assignments. These will be counted as missing. If you have an emergency, make sure to email me BEFORE the deadline, so that we can discuss alternatives. If at any time you would like to discuss your progress in the course with me, please don’t hesitate to ask questions during weekly check-in, or send me an email.

File format: All writing assignments, including exercises and homework, must be attached as Word docs in .doc or docx formats. Other formats may not open in Canvas. Include your name on all your assignments and PROOFREAD your work. Use 12-point font and 1-inch margins.

NOTES:

ALL ASSIGNMENTS OF ANY KIND ARE DUE ON WEDNESDAYS AND SUNDAYS AT 11:59 P.M. AFTER THIS TIME THE ASSIGNMENT WILL LOCK, SO PLEASE PLAN ACCORDINGLY.

All poems and exercises written for this class should be NEW WORK, written this quarter, for a particular assignment. No exceptions. That is the whole point of a writing class. 😊

The grades in this class are weighted by percentage. To figure your grade by the number of points given an assignment on Canvas will not be accurate. It is important not to skip assignments if you want to get a good grade.
I do not grade poems or exercises turned in during the quarter; however, I will be writing comments on all your work. Your poems will only be graded in your final portfolio after you have posted them in workshop and worked on revising them. Revision is the most important learning process in this class.

The 5-page paper is to be approached as an opportunity for you, as a poet, to write about contemporary poetry, with an emphasis on the craft of the writer and the structure of the book. This is not a literary analysis paper, but a paper about the poet’s writing process and cumulative voice in this particular book.

All instances of academic dishonesty or plagiarism in this class will not be tolerated. If you plagiarize work, you will fail the class and be reported.

ADA Statement: Central Washington University is committed to creating a learning environment that meets the needs of its diverse student body. If you anticipate or experience any barriers to learning, discuss your concerns with the instructor. Students with disabilities should contact Disability Services to discuss a range of options to removing barriers in the course, including accommodations. DS is located in Bouillon 140. Call (509) 963-1202 or email ds@cwu.edu for more information.

Inclusivity Statement: In my classroom, diversity is welcomed and celebrated. I will not tolerate any forms of prejudice or discrimination, including those based on age, color, disability, gender, national origin, political affiliation, race, religion, sexual orientation, or veteran status. We are here to learn in a climate of civility and mutual respect.
CLASS SCHEDULE AND ASSIGNMENTS:
This syllabus is subject to change; changes will be announced via Canvas Announcement and email.

Our craft book on poetry writing, *The Crafty Poet* by Diane Lockward, is referred to below as *Crafty*.

WEEK ONE
1/6-1/11/15
*Getting Started—Familiarize Yourself with ENG 465: Advanced Poetry Writing*
Canvas Site, Course Design, Textbooks, Syllabus and Weekly Instructions.
Sign up for slot for your PowerPoint presentation.
Guidelines for PowerPoint presentation.
Workshop Discussion Preview.


Post: Introduction Assignment (Wed.).

Due: Check-in with Professor (Wed.).

Due: Poem Exercise: from Craft Tip #2 with Alexie reading (pg. 14 in *Crafty*) OR from Bonus Craft Tip (pg. 30 in *Crafty*) (Sun.).

WEEK TWO
1/12-1/18/15
Read: The second half of *Face* (pgs. 87-159) and Chap II: Diction (pages 31-55) in *Crafty* -- choosing one prompt for your workshop poem.

Due: Check-in with Professor (Wed.).

Due: Student presentations on Sherman Alexie poems (Wed.) and graded student response (Sun.).

Post: Workshop Poem from *Crafty* prompt of your choice in Chap II: Diction (pages 31-55) (Sun.).

WEEK THREE
1/19-1/25/15
Read: Pgs. 1-35 in *The Earth Avails* by Mark Wunderlich and Part III: Sound in *Crafty* (pgs. 59-82) --choosing one exercise for your homework poem.

Post: Comments on three Peer Workshop Poem Drafts from *Crafty*
prompts from Chap II: Diction (pages 31-55) (Wed.).

Due: Check-in with Professor (Wed.).

Due: Quiz #1 (Sun.)

Due: Poem Draft from prompt of your choice in Part III: Sound in Crafty (pgs. 59-82). (Sun.).

WEEK FOUR
1/26-2/1/15
Read: The second half of The Earth Avails (pgs. 36-71) and Chap IV: Voice (pages 83-109) in Crafty -- choosing one prompt for your workshop poem.

Due: Check-in with Professor (Wed.).

Due: Student presentations on Mark Wunderlich poems (Wed.) and graded student response (Sun.).

Post: Workshop Poem from Crafty prompt of your choice in Chap IV: Voice (pages 83-109) (Sun.).

WEEK FIVE
2/2-2/8/15
Read: Pgs. 1-50 in The Poem She Didn’t Write and Other Poems by Olena Kalytiak Davis and read Part V: Imagery/Figurative Language (pages 113-138) in Crafty--choosing one exercise for your homework poem.

Post: Comments on three Peer Workshop Poem Drafts from Crafty prompts from in Chap IV: Voice (pages 83-109) (Wed.).

Due: Check-in with Professor (Wed.).

Due: Quiz #2 (Sun.)

Due: Poem Draft from prompt of your choice in Part V: Imagery/Figurative Language (pages 113-138) (Sun.).

WEEK SIX
2/9-2/15/15
Read: The second half of The Poem She Didn’t Write (pgs. 51-107) and Chap VI: Going Deep/Adding Layers (pages 139-164) in Crafty -- choosing one prompt for your workshop poem.

Due: Check-in with Professor (Wed.).

Due: Student presentations on Olena Kalytiak Davis poems (Wed.) and graded student response (Sun.).
Post: Workshop Poem from *Crafty* prompt of your choice in Part VI: Going Deep/Adding Layers (pages 141-164) (Sun.).

**WEEK SEVEN**

2/16-2/22/15

Read: *One With Others* by C.D. Wright (whole book), and read Part VII: Syntax (pages 167-184) in *Crafty* -- choosing one exercise for your homework poem.

5-page paper guidelines.

Post: Comments on three Peer Workshop Poem Drafts from *Crafty* prompts from in Part VI: Going Deep/Adding Layers (pages 141-164) (Wed.).

Due: Check-in with Professor (Wed.).

Due: Quiz #3 (Sun.)

Due: Poem Draft from prompt of your choice in Part VII: Syntax (pages 167-184) in *Crafty* (Sun.).

**WEEK EIGHT**

2/23-3/1/15

Read: Review *One Among Others* by C.D. Wright (whole book), and Part VIII: Line/Stanza (pages 187-204) in *Crafty* -- choosing one prompt for your workshop poem.

Due: Check-in with Professor (Wed.).

Due: Student presentations on sections of *One Among Others* by C.D. Wright (Wed.) and graded student response (Sun.).

Post: Workshop Poem from *Crafty* prompt of your choice in Part VIII: Line/Stanza (pages 187-204) (Sun.).

**WEEK NINE**

3/2-3/8/15

Read: Part IX: Revision (pages 207-228) in *Crafty* -- choosing one exercise for your homework poem.

Portfolio Guidelines.

Post: Comments on three Peer Workshop Poem Drafts from *Crafty* prompts from in Part VI: Going Deep/Adding Layers (pages 141-164) (Wed.).
Due: Check-in with Professor (Wed.).

Due: Poem Draft from prompt of your choice in Part IX: Revision (pages 207-228) in *Crafty* (Sun.). This will be a poem you already turned in for workshop and a revision of it using the suggestions from the prompt in this chapter.

**WEEK TEN**

3/9-3/15/15

Read: Part X: Writer’s Block/Recycling (pages 231-246) in *Crafty* (choosing one to complete and share).

Due: Check-in with Professor (Wed.).

Due: 5-page papers on one of the books from this quarter (see guidelines) (Wed.).

Post: Poem from *Crafty* prompt of your choice in Part X: Writer’s Block/Recycling (pages 231-246) (Sun.). This poem is to share.

**EXAM WEEK**

Portfolios due by 11:45 p.m. Wed., 3/18/15.