

## Syllabus - ENGL 4389 Spring 2003 UTPB

### Postmodern Poetry

Th 7:05-9:45; MB 447

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A study of American poetry since WW-II in the context of the major schools or movements, with a focus upon work that confronts, extends, refashions or otherwise engages the legacy of modernist poetry (esp. Pound, Eliot, Loy, Stein, Williams, Zukofsky). In addition to reading in terms of schools, we will bring two additional frames to bear. First the course will invite students to review trends in postmodern thought and allied arts and entertain the question of how "postmodernism" intersects with innovative or experimental poetry after. Second, using a recent anthology, we will consider whether the postmodern vein extends to the new millenium.

### Texts

Postmodern American Poetry, Hoover.

Introducing Postmodernism, Appignanesi.

The Best American Poetry 2002, Creeley.

### Other Resources

Class Web Page ([www.utpb.edu/~sherwood/](http://www.utpb.edu/~sherwood/))\*

MAPS - Modern American Poetry ( <http://www.english.uiuc.edu/maps/>)

EPC - Electronic Poetry Center ( [epc.buffalo.edu/](http://epc.buffalo.edu/))

Factory School -Web audio (<http://www.factoryschool.org/content/poetry/>)

UTPB Galenet Databases ([infotrac.galenet.com/menu](http://infotrac.galenet.com/menu)), especially: Dictionary of Literary Biography, Literature Resource Center, Twayne Authors, and Scribner Writers

[\*Internet access will be necessary in this course; insure that your schedule allows access, either at home or on campus. Some UTPB databases may require you to access on campus (or via proxy); email me if you have difficulty.]

### Requirements

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| Live Participation - 1. contributions to in-class discussion; 2. preparedness; 3. quizzes; 4. informal writing or homework.  | 15% |
| Virtual Participation - 1. reading of Web posts; and <b>either</b> 2a. Blog (twice weekly reader's journal), 2b. virtual discussion (weekly posts in conversation with classmates), or 2c. handouts (three introductory handouts for class). Assessed via end-of-semester portfolio. | 15% |
| Essays 2- One three-page close-reading of a poem, draft and revision 20%; one, seven-page analysis with research, drafts and revision 30%.   | 50% |
| Final Exam - paragraph and essay-length discussion of readings and analysis; open-book format.   | 20% |

Attendance is assumed. Each student is allowed two absences, beyond which the student's final average will be reduced 5% points per absence. Students who anticipate missing more than the allowed classes for health, family, or other personal reasons should consider taking the class at another time. UTPB requires that students attending sponsored events (eg. athletes) be given the opportunity to make up work; a typed, 350-word discussion of assigned material will be expected within one week of such absences. Fairness requires that no exceptions be made.

### **Cheating, Plagiarism, and Collusion**

#### **UTPB Policy on Scholastic Dishonesty**

*Students are expected to be above reproach in all scholastic activities. Students who engage in scholastic dishonesty are subject to disciplinary penalties, including the possibility of failure in the course and dismissal from the university. 'Scholastic dishonesty includes but is not limited to cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts.'* Regents' Rules and Regulations, Part One, Chapter VI, Section 3, Subsection 3.2, Subdivision 3.22. Since scholastic dishonesty harms the individual, all students, and the integrity of the university, policies on scholastic dishonesty will be strictly enforced--Student Discipline for Scholastic Dishonesty: A Guide for Administrators, Faculty, and Hearing Officers (28).

See also: [www.utpb.edu/UTPB\\_Student/Students/StudentLife/StudentService\\_Other/StudentGuide/main\\_student\\_guide.htm](http://www.utpb.edu/UTPB_Student/Students/StudentLife/StudentService_Other/StudentGuide/main_student_guide.htm)

Scholastic Dishonesty is a serious matter. I am savvy and vigilant in detecting students who use unattributed web sources, "collaborate" with fellows students, or utilize other "clever" methods to enhance their grades. Take the grade you honestly earn on an assignment. Should a classmate attempt to use your work, refuse; I make no distinction between cheaters and those who aid them. A plagiarized assignment will earn you a zero for the assignment and referral to the Vice President for disciplinary action.

### **Expectations, Workload, and Help**

*Each semester credit hour at UT Permian Basin represents a commitment on an average of three hours of 'out of class' preparation and one hour of class attendance (or its equivalent) per week. For example, enrolling in a three semester credit hour class commits the student to a total of twelve hours of work per week. Students who are employed or who have family responsibilities are especially encouraged to bear this commitment in mind and to seek guidance from their academic advisors in determining a suitable academic schedule*

(UTPB Undergraduate Catalog 2001-2003; 57).

This will be a challenging college course; ENGL 1302 and 3300 are prerequisites. We will discuss all major texts during class, but I expect that you will have closely read and reflected on them in advance. As in all literature courses, you must make the effort to draw your own inferences about the texts you read and be prepared to learn how to articulate and justify your interpretations. Make sure you schedule time for reflective reading; falling behind in the reading diminishes what you can gain from each class. I will expect that your written work, if not "original," will do more than simply reprocess what our class discussions and lectures presented. Also, it is assumed that you are familiar with the basics of composition. If you have not satisfied your general education requirements in writing, you must postpone this class until you have done so. I encourage you to meet with me for extra help or to discuss ways to enhance your

learning. Please keep track of your grades. I prefer substantive discussions about the course content or your growth (strengths and weaknesses) to talk of your GPA and the generation of 'progress reports,' which is not the most efficient use of our time together.

### **Make-up Work, Computer Breakdown, and Other Exigencies**

Successful mastery of course material requires students to complete assignments in a timely fashion. Make-up work does not serve the learning process and so will not be permitted, except for tests missed because of family emergency or severe illness.

Writing assignments should be handed in at the beginning of class on the day due; the grade of a late paper will be reduced by a 1/2-letter-grade for each day or portion of a day it is late; after one week, a grade of F will pertain, though the student should still submit a paper in order to avoid getting a zero. Should you unavoidably miss a class, be sure to convey any assignment to me: leave it in my HFA-office mailbox; use a classmate as courier; email it (sherwood\_k@utpb.edu); or fax 552-3280. Make paper and back-up copies of work done on computers. Begin work in advance of deadlines, so that you have time to troubleshoot disk errors, virus alerts, printer problems, etc. I know intimately how unreliable technology can be, but you are responsible for submitting work despite the gremlins and Murphy's Law.

### **Cell Phones**

Please silence cell phones and beepers during class time.

*Further details about policies, procedures, and assignments are available in the FAQ and Calendar.*

