Critical Reading and Writing: Poetry

**Required Texts:**
*Norton Anthology of Poetry*, Shorter Edition  
Strunk and White, *Elements of Style*  
Diana Hacker, *A Writer's Reference*  
A good, hard-cover dictionary

**Note:** Assignments are due on the dates listed. All poems are in the *Norton* unless otherwise noted.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Sept.</th>
<th>1 R</th>
<th>Williams, “This is Just to Say”</th>
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| 6 T   | Robert Frost, “Stopping by Woods”  
Hacker, C1a-C1d; Elbow, “Freewriting,” handout  
*Elements of Style*, xiii-xviii |
| 8 R   | Robert Pinsky, “Shirt” (hand-out), Observation and Paraphrase worksheets due |
| 13 T  | Pinsky, “Shirt,” Analysis and Interpretation Worksheets due  
*Elements*, 66-85 |
| 15 R  | Read 3 poems and choose one for Essay 1 (hand-out)  
Write four steps on poem for Essay 1. Meet in poem groups. |
| 20 T  | Jonson, “On My First Son”; Plagiarism |
| 22 R  | Shakespeare, Sonnet #29; Versification, *Norton* 1103-22; *Elements*, #12, p. 15 |
| 27 T  | Thesis Statements, Hacker, C2a; **Essay 1 draft due in class**, work on drafts in pairs. |
| 29 R  | Shakespeare, Sonnet #30  
**Essay 1 due.** Hacker, Paragraphs, C4; *Elements*, #13, pp. 15-17 |

| Oct. | 4 T | A fool-proof method for clear, strong sentences  
*Elements*, pp. 19-33 |
| 6 R   | Frost “Acquainted with the Night” and “The Silken Tent” Essay 2 assignment handed out |
| 11 T  | Columbus Day—no class |
| 13 R  | **Mid-Term in class** |
| 18 T  | Donne, “Batter My Heart Three-Personed God”; Introductions, Hacker C2c |
| 20 R  | Byron, “She Walks in Beauty”; Conclusions, Hacker C2c |
| 25 T  | **Essay 2 draft due in class; work on essay 2 in pairs** |
| 27 R  | **Essay 2 due in class** |
| Date  | Nov. 1 T | Brooks, “We Real Cool,” 905; “The Bean Eaters” (hand-out)  
|       |         | Workshop: Essay from former student (hand-out)  
|       | 3 R     | Punctuation I, Hacker, P1-P7; Elements, pp. 1-14; Thomas, “Notes on Punctuation” (hand-out)  
|       |         | Punctuation Quiz  
|       | 8 T     | Essay 3 draft, due in class. Work in pairs on Essay 3.  
|       | 10 R    | Dickinson, “After Great Pain”  
|       |         | Punctuation II, Punctuation Quiz  
|       | 15 T    | Essay 3 due in class.  
|       |         | Poem Contest  
|       | 17 R    | Lowell, “For the Union Dead”  
|       | 22 T    | Lowell, “Epilogue”  
| Dec.  | 29 T    | Group Reports: Langston Hughes; Elizabeth Bishop  
|       | 1 R     | Group Reports: Rita Dove; Seamus Heaney  
|       | 6 T     | Collins, “Directions” (hand-out)  
|       |         | Essay 4 draft due in class.  
|       |         | Essay 4 due date to be announced  

**Grades:** Participation, worksheets, and class notebook 10%; Essay 1, 15%; Essay 2, 20%; Essay 3, 20%; Essay 4, 20%; Mid Term, 10%; Group Presentation, 5%.

**Class Policies:**
- Be prepared for a few changes to the syllabus as we see how the course evolves.
- Exercises: I can accept exercises only in class on the day they are due. If you miss a class when I collect these, or when I give a quiz, you will receive a zero for that particular assignment. I will however drop one of these grades before determining your final grade for that work.
- Plagiarism: Plagiarism means presenting other people’s ideas or words as your own. If you summarize, paraphrase, or use language from another source you must provide the proper citation. If you do not quote the exact words, you must recast the sentences entirely in your own words; you may not even follow the original pattern or syntax of the sentence. We will go over this in class but you are responsible for making sure you fully understand and abide by this code of academic honesty. Any essay caught plagiarizing any amount of material will receive an F.
- Late papers: If you do not submit your essay on the day it is due, you will need to get a note from your Class Dean to explain why it is late. If you do not come to class on the day your essay is due, then your essay will be counted late. If you do come to class but don’t have your essay then you will have until 4 p.m. of that day to get it to me and it will not be counted late. Late essays are penalized 1/3 of a grade for each day they are late, including weekends. So Friday’s A- is Monday’s B-. 