

Syllabus for  
**WRT 405-Literary Genres—Poetry**  
3 Credit Hours  
Spring 2012

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION

A workshop that encourages creative expression, with projects concentrating in one genre (e.g., poetry or short fiction). Designed for the serious writer who is capable of developing a writer's discipline. (May be taken twice for credit.)

Prerequisites: WRT 331 and PRF 320 Writing Major/Minor Proficiency

Honors Distinctive: Students who enroll in the honors section of this course will submit an additional research report and make an additional oral presentation.

II. COURSE GOALS

In general, the course enables the student to develop skills in imaginative writing through examining literary models and by frequent writing exercises both in and out of class. Emphasis is placed on the skills of invention, fluidity, economy, technical proficiency, and aesthetic sensibility—in other words, techniques that produce writing that invites reading. No attempt is made to require uniformity of style or interest, but all students must attempt all genres covered. It is assumed that, notwithstanding the entrance expectations, students may enter the class at various levels of ability; and every effort will be made to foster the unique talent and encourage the progress of each. It is hoped that each student will submit at least one piece for publication during the semester.

III. STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES FOR THIS COURSE

A. Terminal Objectives

At the completion of this course the student will be able to do the following:

1. Employ written and oral knowledge in poetry.
2. Write, using the power of the imagination, his or her own life experiences, feelings, and beliefs into a creative journal--which will involved some poetry writing, as well as other types-- and short fiction
3. Apply editorial skills required for publication in contemporary media.

B. Unit Objectives

As a result of successfully completing these units, the student will be able to do the following:

1. Read different types of poetry that emphasize various elements of poetry.
2. Identify various elements of fiction involved in creating poetry.
3. Compose original poems, applying various elements of poetry.
4. Apply publishing tips to getting his or her work ready for publication review.

IV. TEXTBOOKS

Required textbooks:

Clark, Kevin. *The Mind's Eye*. New York: Longman Publisher, 2007. ISBN 9780205498239.

Optional books:

*The Practice of Poetry*, ed. Robin Behn and Chase Twichell. New York: Harper, 2001.  
Oliver, Mary. *A Poetry Handbook*. New York: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 1994.  
Stafford, William. *Writing the Australian Crawl*.

## V. POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

### A. University Policies and Procedures

1. Attendance at each class or laboratory is mandatory at Oral Roberts University. Excessive absences can reduce a student's grade or deny credit for the course.
2. Students taking a late exam because of an unauthorized absence are charged a late exam fee.
3. Students and faculty at Oral Roberts University must adhere to all laws addressing the ethical use of others' materials, whether it is in the form of print, electronic, video, multimedia, or computer software. Plagiarism and other forms of cheating involve both lying and stealing and are violations of ORU's Honor Code: "I will not cheat or plagiarize; I will do my own academic work and will not inappropriately collaborate with other students on assignments." Plagiarism is usually defined as copying someone else's ideas, words, or sentence structure and submitting them as one's own. Other forms of academic dishonesty include (but are not limited to) the following:
  - a. Submitting another's work as one's own or colluding with someone else and submitting that work as though it were his or hers;
  - b. Failing to meet group assignment or project requirements while claiming to have done so;
  - c. Failing to cite sources used in a paper;
  - d. Creating results for experiments, observations, interviews, or projects that were not done;
  - e. Receiving or giving unauthorized help on assignments.By submitting an assignment in any form, the student gives permission for the assignment to be checked for plagiarism, either by submitting the work for electronic verification or by other means. Penalties for any of the above infractions may result in disciplinary action including failing the assignment or failing the course or expulsion from the University, as determined by department and University guidelines.
4. Final exams cannot be given before their scheduled times. Students need to check the final exam schedule before planning return flights or other events at the end of the semester.
5. Students are to be in compliance with university, school, and departmental policies regarding Whole Person Assessment requirements. Students should consult the Whole Person Assessment handbooks for requirements regarding general education and the students' majors.
  - a. The penalty for not submitting electronically or for incorrectly submitting an artifact is a zero for that assignment.
  - b. By submitting an assignment, the student gives permission for the assignment to be assessed electronically.

### B. Department Policies and Procedures

1. **Tardies**—Tardies are an inconvenience to the other class members and the professor, and they prevent the late student from obtaining maximum value from

the class. Therefore, excessive tardies may adversely affect the semester grade. It is to the student's advantage to make sure that the professor is informed immediately following the close of the class that the student was tardy and not absent. It is not the professor's responsibility to stop the class to mark the tardy; the student is the one responsible for conveying that information immediately following that class, not at a later time.

2. **Incompletes**—As stated in the University catalog, incompletes are granted only for "good cause," such as extended hospitalization, long-term illness, or a death in the family. Students must petition for an incomplete using the form available in the English and Modern Languages Department. Very few incompletes are granted.

3. **Late Work**

- a. The student is responsible for obtaining class assignments and material covered during an absence. All work must be completed as scheduled. Late work may result in a lower grade. An absence is not an excuse for turning in late work or for being unprepared with assignments for the class following the absence. Computer or printer malfunction does not constitute an excuse for late work; students should have their work prepared in time to ensure that they can get it proofread, edited, and printed prior to the instructor's due date. Any test taken late incurs a \$15 late-test fee. These responsibilities assist the student in professional development.
- b. Each instructor has his or her own late-work policy that is given to students at the beginning of a course. Instructors use their own judgment in accepting late work resulting from all other absences. In cases where these absences can be anticipated, such as for non-University sponsored mission trips, the work should normally be submitted prior to the absence. In unanticipated absences, such as sickness or family crises, the instructor should be notified as soon as possible and agreement reached on due dates and possible penalties.

4. **Attendance**—Because unavoidable circumstances can prevent perfect attendance, each student is allowed to miss class the number of times per week a class meets. This allowance is for absences such as illness, personal business, and emergency. The student may consider this "sick leave." If a student has absences in excess of this number, the earned grade for the course may be affected. A student who leaves class before dismissal may be marked absent. Extended illnesses are handled on an individual basis and require verification from a doctor.

5. **Administratively Excused Absences**—Only absences that are required by approved University activities are given administrative excuses. Students who must miss class for University-sponsored activities must follow these procedures:
  - a. Inform the professor before the event and make arrangement for the work to be submitted prior to the absence or at a mutually agreed upon deadline.
  - b. Present an administrative excuse form with appropriate signatures when he or she returns to class. Doctors' or nurses' notes, or letters from groups sponsoring mission trips or activities do not qualify a student for an administratively excused absence.
  - c. Obtain information covered during an absence. All work must be completed as scheduled.
  - d. Not commit to class presentation (oral reports, speeches, group presentations,

etc.) on a date that the student will be gone. Makeup work is not permitted if the student voluntarily committed to a performance on the date of an administratively excused absence.

6. **Extra Credit**—Students should not expect extra credit to help raise a grade.
7. **Plagiarism** – Each student attending Oral Roberts University is required to do his or her own academic work and must not inappropriately collaborate with other students on assignments. Students must document all sources and ideas that are not their own original information by following correct MLA (Modern Language Association) documentation procedures. Failure to do this produces a plagiarized paper, which results in an F for the paper. Photocopies of sources must be turned in with research papers. Flagrant cheating results in an F for the course.

C. Course Policies and Procedures

- |    |  |              |
|----|--|--------------|
| 1. | Evaluation Procedures  | Points       |
|    | 20 graded poetic exercises, 50 pts. each                               | 2,000        |
|    | Exam on elements of poetry, metrics and forms                          | 200          |
|    | Final Course Portfolio, with drafts and revisions of at least 10 poems | <u>1,000</u> |
|    | TOTAL  | 3,200        |
2. Grading Scale  
A=90-100%    B=80-89%    C=70-79%    D=60-69%    F=59% and below
  3. There is no Whole Person Assessment assignment for this class.
  4. All the work done outside of the class must be typed and double-spaced on one side of the page with one-inch margins. Each student must provide typed, photocopied copies of works in progress for the professor and each class member at regular intervals, according to assignment schedule, and participate in oral readings and critiques of individual student works. In commenting on the works of class members, absolute candor, with kindness, in the context of constructive criticism is expected. After each critique, student author revises work and places both copies in a portfolio, with at least ten selections submitted for the final portfolio
  5. Each student should plan to submit one or more of his or her works to Promethia and at least one to a refereed literary journal for publication review.

## VI. COURSE CALENDAR

Weeks 1-15 Poetry (formal and free modes of poetry)

The weekly reading and writing assignments will follow the chapter order of *The Mind's Eye*.

## VII. REQUIREMENTS

1. Through the study of modern and contemporary poetry, students will develop an understanding and skills of the essential elements of poetry.
2. Students (1) practice various techniques of poetry, and (2) compose 20 or more poems, which will be revised after class evaluation, with at least ten submitted as a final portfolio.
3. In addition to composing their own poems, students demonstrate their knowledge of the essential elements of poetry in an exam.

4. Students will prepare a comprehensive final portfolio consisting of at least ten poems, with drafts and revisions. Final portfolios should be paginated, neatly ordered, and placed in a special binder with a title page and a table of contents.

## Course Inventory for ORU's Student Learning Outcomes

### WRT 405 - Literary Genres—Short Fiction Spring 2011

This course contributes to the ORU student learning outcomes as indicated below:

**Significant Contribution** – Addresses the outcome directly and includes targeted assessment.

**Moderate Contribution** – Addresses the outcome directly or indirectly and includes some assessment.

**Minimal Contribution** – Addresses the outcome indirectly and includes little or no assessment.

**No Contribution** – Does not address the outcome.

The Student Learning Glossary at <http://ir.oru.edu/doc/glossary.pdf> defines each outcome and each of the proficiencies/capacities.

OUTCOMES & Proficiencies/Capacities		Significant Contribution	Moderate Contribution	Minimal Contribution	No Contribution
<b>1</b>	<b>Outcome #1 – Spiritually Alive</b> Proficiencies/Capacities				
1A	Biblical knowledge			X	
1B	Sensitivity to the Holy Spirit			X	
1C	Evangelistic capability			X	
1D	Ethical behavior	X			
<b>2</b>	<b>Outcome #2 – Intellectually Alert</b> Proficiencies/Capacities				
2A	Critical thinking	X			
2B	Information literacy	X			
2C	Global & historical perspectives				X
2D	Aesthetic appreciation	X			
2E	Intellectual creativity	X			
<b>3</b>	<b>Outcome #3 – Physically Disciplined</b> Proficiencies/Capacities				
3A	Healthy lifestyle				X
3B	Physically disciplined lifestyle				X
<b>4</b>	<b>Outcome #4 – Socially Adept</b> Proficiencies/Capacities				
4A	Communication skills	X			
4B	Interpersonal skills	X			
4C	Appreciation of cultural & linguistic differences			X	
4D	Responsible citizenship			X	
4E	Leadership capacity			X	

(Revised 9/15/06)

