POETRY
(IN PERSPECTIVE, >>>> IN PRACTICE!)

R 6-8:50

FMH 307

Jon Curley
Senior University Lecturer
Department of Humanities and Social Sciences
Cullimore 409
(973) 596-3258
jcurley@njit.edu

Office Hours Tuesdays & Thursdays 3-4 and by appointment

Course Description

This course is an Investment in your Imagination. It is also a referendum on your Rationality. Poetry is both the most ancient literary art internationally but it is also ever the innovator of creative practice: it is simultaneously old school, new wave, and future vision. We will embark on an exploration of poetry by reading it, studying it, and practicing it. The structure of this course is a workshop, an environment in which to express and experiment, to engage words, sounds, and performance in vital, diverse ways.

No experience or previously acquired skill are required: poets are not born, poets progress. Even if you never again engage the form, I guarantee that you will read more deeply and be able to conceptualize your world more dynamically. You are welcome to join the tribe—even if only for a semester.

I am a Poet as well as a Professor; I profess poetry but am no self-satisfied master of the form. I am a fellow lyrical technician and look forward to learning from you as well. The late legendary Amiri Baraka was a world-famous Poet operating out of Newark, New Jersey, and also a mentor to me. We shall engage his legacy and spirit, along with other master Poets and Lyricists from various historical periods and across styles and structures.

Requirements

You are expected to keep up with the assigned reading (either shared on our course page or shared via online links) and complete all assigned exercises. Classroom/virtual participation is essential. The format for this course requires discussion, a constellation of active, energetic voices. Participation can also take the shape of various other engagements, including CANVAS forum posts, written commentaries or suggestions, and other input not assigned.

I will ask that you bring responses to particular texts and poems under consideration each week and compile a weekly writing journal based on your writing experience, reactions, and any other thoughts related to this course. You will be utilizing CANVAS and expected to interact with its contents regularly. Find the link at canvas.njit.edu

Keep in mind that CANVAS and regular group emails sent by me will both complement, supplement and, at times, correct the syllabus in terms of timetables, content, and many other details potentially disrupted by this Pandemic.

Grade Breakdown

Class Participation/Attendance	2 points
Ongoing writings	20 points
Poetry Journal	10 points
Mid-Term Critical/Creative Project	20 points
Poetry Performance/Reading	10 points
End-of-Semester Poetry Portfolio	20 points
Total Points	100 points

(Do note: the Spirit of Poetry is largely allergic to points, grades, calculated heresies of the conventional world >>>>>>>>>>>>>>>> but there are institutionalized practices to be undertaken and policies to be upheld, so there you go and here We g(l)o(w)!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

(Please continue below…)

NJIT University Code on Academic Integrity
"Academic Integrity is the cornerstone of higher education and is central to the ideals of this course and the university. Cheating is strictly prohibited and devalues the degree that you are working on. As a member of the NJIT community, it is your responsibility to protect your educational investment by knowing and following the academic code of integrity policy that is found at:
https://www.njit.edu/dos/code-student-conduct-article-11-university-policy-academic-integrity
Please Note: Any use of ChatGPT for any assignment constitutes active and acknowledged plagiarism. It will not be tolerated or excused in any case. Your natural intelligence is always to be preferred to artificial intelligence. Artificially intelligent thinking and writing will always be inferior to naturally human thinking and writing. I am sorry to disabuse some of the technocratic community of this definite, unchanging truism and reality.
*.Please note that it is my professional obligation and responsibility to report any academic misconduct to the Dean of Students Office. **Any student found in violation of the code by cheating, plagiarizing or using any online software inappropriately will result in disciplinary action. This may include a failing grade of F, and/or suspension or dismissal from the university.** If you have any questions about the code of Academic Integrity, please contact the Dean of Students Office at dos@njit.edu"*
REGARDING ONGOING WEEKLY WRITINGS//WORK ASSIGNMENTS:
The general structure of weekly assignments beginning during WEEK TWO and ending WEEK FOURTEEN (the penultimate week) will be three-fold:
1. Production of new creative work;

2. Analysis of assigned critical commentary;

3. Interpretation of assigned poems & texts

[[[[Deadlines, formats, and other prescriptive requirements will be modified in accordance with our group dynamic in both workshop and individual modes of comprehension, expression, composition, intellectual inquiry, & imaginative questing]]]]
>>>>(Refer to **CANVAS** for finalized directions, deployment details, & deadlines)<<<<