

Creative Writing (poetry)

LMC 3234

CRN:

GT-E Summer 2026

Georgia Institute of Technology

Instructor: Travis Denton

Time TBA **Classroom:** TBA

Office: Poetry@Tech

Office Hours: TBA

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This is a Core IMPACTS course that is part of the Humanities area.

Core IMPACTS refers to the core curriculum, which provides students with essential knowledge in foundational academic areas. This course will help master course content, and support students' broad academic and career goals.

This course should direct students toward a broad Orienting Question:

- How do I interpret the human experience through creative, linguistic, and philosophical works?

Completion of this course should enable students to meet the following Learning Outcome:

- Students will effectively analyze and interpret the meaning, cultural significance, and ethical implications of literary/philosophical texts or of works in the visual/performing arts.

Course content, activities and exercises in this course should help students develop the following Career-Ready Competencies:

- Ethical Reasoning
- Information Literacy
- Intercultural Competence

Course Description

LMC 3234 Creative Writing is focused entirely on making poems. The class will focus on the study of essential elements of poetic craft; literary devices, and close readings of representative poems in order to produce your own poems with an eye toward workshopping your original work in class.

This course is also intended to give you practice in various styles of poetry writing, points of view, as well as forms and various performance aspects of poetry. You will gain an understanding of the "creative impulse—why we write. What compels us to do so? You will also learn to be a better editor of your own work, as well as the work of others.

Learning Outcomes

* Interpretive Frameworks: Students will become familiar with a variety of social, political, and philosophical theories and be able to apply those theories to creative and scientific texts, as well as to their own cultural observations.

* Literary/Film/Narrative Art Inquiry: Students will be aware of the traditions and conventions of literature, film, and other forms of narrative art, and they will be able to analyze those traditions and conventions in specific cultural contexts.

*Students will devote an entire semester to the reading and study of poetry and become conversant with issues of technique as well as literary devices and poetic forms.

*Students will understand the defining characteristics of the specific genre studied and what sets it apart from other writing genres and art forms.

Required Texts

Subscription to “Poem-a-Day” from the Academy of American Poets. It’s free, too. Sign up at www.poets.org.

I'll provide you with other class resources as needed.

You may also be asked to pay admission to various museums and cathedrals in Metz where we may be taking writing fieldtrips.

Graded Assignments:

Your Grade will be calculated based on the following:

Attendance/Class Participation/Quizzes	=25%
Midterm Exam	=15%
Original poems for class workshop	=20%
Final Portfolio/Journal/Critical Preface	=20%
Motion Poem	=10%
Poem in your pocket	=10%

=your grade

Attendance

In order to succeed as a writer, or in any other field of study for that matter, you must be dedicated and disciplined. A major indicator of those two traits is regular attendance. Therefore, you are expected to be in class. More than two absences may result in a standard letter grade deduction.

Tardiness must also be kept to a minimum. If you must be late or absent on a given day, please email me in advance and I will extend you the same courtesy.

Class Participation

Being present in body is important, but being present in mind is equally as important. That is why you must add to class discussions and comment on your colleagues' work as necessary. To earn all points for class participation you must have read all assigned materials as well as have read your colleagues' poems for workshop and have prepared your comments in advance.

Assignments

Your talent as a writer or your level of creativity will not be graded. However, your time put into assignments, your level of engagement, your completion and accuracy of assignments, as well as mastery of the material will be graded.

Writing Journal

750 words per week—your ongoing assignment. Your journal may include a discussion of what you’re reading in class (reaction to the poems), where you’re traveling, ideas for poems, things you see as you move about the world each day, drafts of new poems, things you heard on the train or street, notes on articles you’ve read during the week which inspire you in some way, and more.

Motion Poems

We’ll divide into groups, and each group will make a short film that is a visual interpretation of a single poem.

Poem In Your Pocket

More details in class. Poetry memorization and recitation. Go to www.poetryoutloud.org to choose your poem.

Late Work

If you know that you will be absent on the day that an assignment is due, then turn in that assignment in class on the day before it is due. If you have an unforeseen illness or emergency the day that an assignment is due, you must make every effort to email me that assignment. Turning in work late may result in a standard letter-grade deduction for that assignment.

Honor Code:

Please understand that you are guilty of plagiarism if you attempt to present the words, ideas, or work of another as your own without crediting the original source. If you are caught plagiarizing, you will be dealt with according to the Georgia Tech Academic Honor Code. For more details, see https://policylibrary.gatech.edu/student-life/academic-honor-code#Article_II:_Academic_Honor_Code

Policy on AI Generated Work:

For the purposes of this class, any student found to have used AI technologies or programs (e.g. Chat GPT) to compose part or all of any submitted work will face the same penalties as a student who submits plagiarized work (i.e. a failing grade in the course).

Important Dates to Keep in Mind:**Course Schedule**

Please note the following is a tentative weekly schedule. Modifications may be needed as we proceed. I will let you know in advance if any deviations are necessary.

Coming Soon