

Spring 1-15-2009

## ENG 2003-001

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English 2003

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Office Hours MWF 12:00-1:00

### Description

This is an introduction to the writing of poetry today, and since no writing is done in a vacuum (we learn every word we know from someone else), we'll read our way through some of the important work of the past, work which has shaped how we think, feel, speak and write. I expect our class time to be devoted about equally to assigned reading and student writing, and I hope for animated and wide-ranging discussions.

### Texts

Allen, *The Postmoderns*  
Harper, *Vintage Book of African American Poetry*  
Rimbaud, *Collected Writings*  
Rothenberg, *Poems for the Millennium, I and II*

### Requirements and Expectations

- *Weekly reading and writing assignments*  
We will practice a wide range of techniques and forms, and you will be writing every week and sometimes for every class. Note that -- in addition to its considerable writing requirements -- this is a *reading* intensive course, in which others will respond to your work and you will respond to theirs. During the first week of class I will collect and distribute the email addresses of our workshop members. It will then be your responsibility to email your work to the rest of class and to print, read *and comment upon* the work of other workshop members. [50% of grade]
- *Detailed presentation of a poet from Poems for the Millennium II.* [20% of grade]
- *A final selection of 20 pages of work* (of which half may be derived from class assignments) due on the last day of class. [30% of grade]
- *Regular attendance and participation.* I allow two absences and will lower your final grade by one letter for each class you miss thereafter.
- *You must complete all course requirements punctually to receive a passing grade.*

If you have a documented disability and wish to receive accommodations, which I will gladly provide, please contact the Coordinator of the Office of Disability Services (581-6583) as soon as possible.

## Readings.

### 1. Limits?

Rimbaud. *Illuminations* and selected letters.

From Rothenberg and Joris (vol.1):

Blake, 21-23.

Wolfl, pp.83-85.

Apollinaire, 119, 128-129

Marinetti, 199.

Depero, 213-215.

Kamensky, 222.

DADA, 289-326.

Johnny John, 756.

MacLow, 772.

Bacharach, 790-792.

Gaffarel, 793.

### 2. What do you see?

Williams, Selections from *Spring and All*

Levertov, in Allen and Butterick.

From Rothenberg and Joris (vol.1):

Reznikoff, 546-551.

Ungaretti, 177.

Williams, 529-533.

Hughes, 651-655.

(Photocopies.)

### 3. How well do you sleep?

Reading from Rothenberg and Joris.

Jacob, 112-118.

Apollinaire, 119-131.

Reverdy, 180-184.

Huidobro, 185-189

Surrealism, 465-517.

Prologue to *Negritude*, 559-582

Henri Michaux, 615-618

### 4. What do you think?

Dickinson (poems TBA)

Stevens (poems TBA)

From Rothenberg and Joris (vol.1):

Hopkins, 37-38.

Mallarme, 53-75.

Stein, 99-105; 346-351.

Schwerner, 777.

### 5. Selected Contemporaries.

Ginsberg.

Creeley.

Di Prima.

Rich.

Scalapino.

Snyder.