

Fall 8-15-2011

ENG 2011G-001

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Recommended Citation

Abella, Olga, "ENG 2011G-001" (2011). *Fall 2011*. 68.
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ENGLISH 2011

Dr. Olga Abella
3325 Coleman (6297)

Office Hours: MWF 10-12
and by appointment

I. **TEXTS:**

The Norton Anthology of Modern Poetry (NOR 1)

The Norton Anthology of Contemporary Poetry (NOR 2)

Outsiders: Poems About Rebels, Exiles, and Renegades (OUT)

Unsettling America: An Anthology of Contemporary Multicultural Poetry (UA)

II. **ASSIGNMENTS** (with appropriate grade % for each):

1. **In-Class Writing:** Unannounced short writing exercises given at the beginning of class, lasting around 10-15 minutes, in response to the reading assigned for that day. These should pressure you to keep up with the readings, and to have some background for discussions. These cannot be made up if you miss them. If there are more than 5, the 5 highest grades will be averaged into one. (10%)
 2. **Critical Papers: Three papers.** The first paper (3-5 pages) will be an examination of a poem of your choice in which you argue a point you want to make about the poem (15%). For the second paper (3-5 pages) you will compare/contrast two poems of your choice on the same theme or topic by two different poets (15%). The third paper (4-6 pages) will be a study of a poet of your choice where you will examine several poems by that writer and determine what overall theme, style, or focus seems to define her/his work (15%). Papers should **not** be research exercises. They should be explorations of critical ideas that occur as you read the poetry. **Do not use secondary sources. Papers must be typed, double-spaced, with one-inch margins to allow for comments.**
 3. **Journals.** This will be a log of your responses to the poems you will be reading throughout the semester from the course texts. **At the top of the page you must write the POEM'S TITLE and, WRITER'S NAME.** For each poem, you will first write your initial thoughts/reactions/feelings before coming to class. After class discussion, you will reflect further on your response to the poem and on class discussion. This will help you develop ideas for papers. Journal will be **collected 3 times** during the semester, and a final grade will be given at the end (15%)
 4. **Class Participation:** Discussion is a very important part of this course. Expressing your reactions to the poems will help you to think critically about them and about your reactions to them, and that will help make writing the papers less intimidating. So, you will be expected to voice your thoughts. (10%)
 5. **Final:** This exam will focus on the semester's readings. Any readings that are excluded will be specified before the exam date. The exam will be open-book and given during final exam week. (20%)
- III. **ATTENDANCE:** Without regular attendance, you will probably not know enough about how the course readings have been examined and explained. A significant part of various test questions will be based on discussions. Without knowing about these, you may well be unable to cope with the final exam. Therefore, each student is responsible for **all** of those parts of the classroom experience. **More than 4 unexcused absences will result in a failing participation grade.**
- IV. **LATE WORK:** All assignments are due on the dates specified. Late papers will be graded down. If you cannot complete an assignment on time, you must see me **before** it is due.
- V. **FINAL NOTE:** If you have a documented disability and wish to receive academic accommodations, please contact the Coordinator of the Office of Disabilities Services (6583) as soon as possible.

- Aug.. 22 Introduction
 24 Discussion of Poetry; **Norton, Vol 1** (intro xxxvii-xliv) and **Vol 2** (intro xliii-liv).
 26 Reading Poetry; Stafford: "Traveling" 83 **[NOR 2]**; Dickinson (**xerox**)
- 29 Whitman: "Song of Myself" 4 **[NOR 1]**
 31 **[SELF/IDENTITY]**; Berryman: "Henry's" 100; Bishop: "Waiting Room";
 Strand: "Celebration" 622 **[NOR 2]**
- Sept. 2
 5 LABOR DAY—No Class
 7 Jordan: "Poem" (**xerox**); Brooks: "A Song" 141 **[NOR 2]**
 9 Carpenter: "Rain" (**xerox**); Clifton: "the thirty" (**xerox**)
- 12 Berg: "Nostalgia" 27; Greenberg: "the man" 106; Simic: "The Inner" 266 **[OUT]**
 14 Leto: "For Talking" 163; Wong: "When" 55; Tallmountain: "Indian Blood" 64 **[UA]**
 16 **JOURNALS DUE**; Lorde: "Coal" 616 **[NOR 2]**; Urdang: "Portrait" 275 **[OUT]**
- 19 Espada: "Coca-Cola" 124; Sanchez: "Song" 111 **[UA]**; Rutsala: "Shame" 237 **[OUT]**
 21 In-Class Exercise
 23 In-Class Exercise
- 26
 28 Rich: "Yom Kippur" (**xerox**)
 30 Eliot: "Love Song" 463 **[NOR 2]**
- Oct. 3 **PAPER #1 DUE; [FAMILY]**; Hayden: "Those Winter" 62; Lorde "Now that I Am" 617 **[NOR 2]**
 5 Roethke: "My Papa's Waltz" 843 **[NOR 1]**; Plath Video
 7 Mora: "Elena" 11; Hai-Jew: "Kinged" 32 **[UA]**
- 10 Shapiro: "Tattoo" 34; Harris: "Daddy" 110; Berntein: "When" 39 **[UA]**
 12 Gioseffi: "Bicentennial" 251; Espada: "Niggerlips" 138 **[UA]**
 14 FALL BREAK—No Class
- 17 Millar: "Midlife" 192; St. Germain: "Cajun" 241 **[OUT]**
 19 **[GENDER/SEX/LOVE/MARRIAGE]** Lowell: "To Speak" 132;
 Forché: "Taking Off" 916 **[NOR 2]**
 21 Millay: "Love Is Not" 512; Kunitz: "Touch Me" 764 **[NOR 1]**
- 24 **JOURNALS DUE**; Bogan: "Women" 588; Roethke: "I Knew" 851 **[NOR 1]**
 26 Justice: "Men" 277 **[NOR 2]**; Atwood: "Variations" (**xerox**) & "You Fit" 767 **[NOR 2]**
 28 Rich: "II" 470; Doty: "The Embrace" 998 **[NOR 2]**
- Nov 31 Levertov: "The Ache" 250 **[NOR 2]**; Corso: "Marriage" (**xerox**)
 2 Lorde: "Love Poem" 617; Lowell: "To Speak" 132 **[NOR 2]**
 4 Video
- 7 Hughes: "The Lovepet" (**xerox**); Giovanni: "Woman Poem" (**xerox**)
 9 **PAPER #2 DUE**; Doty: "Homo Will" 75; Cox: "The Barbells" 56 **[OUT]**
 11 Olds: "The Language" (**xerox**); Piercy: "The Woman" (**xerox**)
- 14 **[SOCIAL/POLITICAL]**; Shange: "With No" (**xerox**); Baca: "So Mexicans" 115 **[UA]**
 16 Harjo: "I Give You Back" (**xerox**); Cervantes: "Poem" 248 **[UA]**
 18 Joseph: "On Being" 125; Espada: "Beloved Spic" 86 **[OUT]**
- 21 Thanksgiving Break
 23 Thanksgiving Break
 25 Thanksgiving Break
- 28 Roethke: "Dolor" 844; Cummings: "['next to of course']" 550 **[NOR 1]**
 30 Ginsberg: "America" 347 **[NOR 2]**
- Dec. 2 Updike: "Ex-Basketball Player" (**xerox**); Harjo: "Remember" (**xerox**)
- 5
 7
 9 **PAPER #3 DUE; JOURNALS DUE**