ENG 3704-002: Revolutions of the Word

John Martone
Eastern Illinois University

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Required Texts
Allen, *The Postmoderns*.
Charters, *The Portable Beat Reader*.
hooks, *Bone Black*.
Johnson, *To Do As Adam Did*.
Kerouac, *On the Road*.
Levertov, *Selected Poems*.
Lorde, *Zami*.
Niedecker, *The Granite Pail*.
Olson, *Selected Writings*.
Plath, *The Bell Jar*.
Snyder, *No Nature*.

Packet of photocopies.

Course Description
We will focus on developments in American poetry and poetics from the beat generation to the beginning of this century, giving attention to how the new American poetries respond to the larger culture's preoccupations. The course falls into three parts: 1) the Beat generation, 2) Projectivist poetics and postmodernism, and 3) women's self-writing.

Expectations and Evaluation
I expect you to attend class and to do the reading. More than two absences for any reason will lower your final grade.

60% of grade: Three 3-5 page essays (topics TBA) due on:
- September 26: Film in context
- October 28: Close reading of a poem
- December 5: Womyn's selves

20% of grade: Unannounced reading quizzes and hourly mid-term examination.

20% of grade: Final examination.
I. the madman bum and angel

August 22 – 24
Introduction, Postwar America and the Beat Generation.
Allen Ginsberg, Howl, Sunflower Sutra, America (Charters 66).

August 29 – August 31
Ginsberg, Kaddish (Charters 77), Wichita Vortex Sutra (Charters 544).

September 5-7
Jack Kerouac, On the Road.

September 12-14
Diane DiPrima (Charters 360), Frank O’Hara (Charters 400).

September 19-21
West Coast Beats: The San Francisco Renaissance
Lawrence Ferlinghetti (Charters 246), Lew Welch (Charters 322), Bob Kaufman (Charters 328).

September 26 - 28
Gary Snyder (from packet)

October 3 - 5
Mid-term examination.

2. and then the individual/identity/clearing

October 10 – 12
Duberman, Black Mountain: Experiment in Community (on reserve)
Charles Olson, Projective Verse and selected poems, Larry Eigner (from Allen).

October 12 – 14
Robert Creeley, Cid Corman (from packet).

October 17 - 19
Lorine Niedecker, Frank Samperi (from packet).

October 24 - 26
Johnson, To Do As Adam Did.

3. and truly my eyes were opened

October 31 – November 2
Bonnie Bremer, For Love of Ray.

November 7 – November 9
Sylvia Plath, The Bell Jar.

November 14 – 16
Audre Lorde, Zami

November 21 – 23
Thanksgiving Recess.

November 28 – November 30

December 5 – 7
Denise Levertov, Selected Poems.