

Course:	EN314-T Creative Writing: Poetry
Credit:	3 Semester Hours
Semester:	Spring 2025 (Session 1 & 2)
Location/Time:	E ED 116 Wednesday and Friday 9:30- 10:50am
Instructor:	Becca Howell, becca.howell@calvary.edu

**About This Class: This is a blended class, meaning that both campus and online students take this class together. Campus students attend the classes in person, online students attend the classes via the online classroom. All interaction and assignments for campus and online students are done in the online classroom.*

**About Changes to this Syllabus: The instructor reserves the right to make changes to this syllabus at any time during the course, but any changes made will only be done after clearly communicating the need for the change and the specific change to be made via in-class announcement and Canvas announcement.*

I. DESCRIPTION

Creative Writing: Poetry introduces students to the elements of poetry, especially image, character, setting, structure, and voice. Students will read and discuss short poetry and practice creative writing skills in journal entries, from which they will develop into drafts. Rough drafts are critiqued in a workshop setting. The course culminates with the development of a polished portfolio. *This course may be repeated once for credit.* (**Prerequisite:** EN210: Introduction to Creative Writing)

II. OBJECTIVES

A. General competencies to be achieved. You will:

1. Understand and apply poetic elements and conventions to written work. (PLO 1, 2; Assignments A–C).
2. Analyze elements and conventions of poetry in literary works (PLO 1, 3; Assignment B–D).
3. Demonstrate understanding of workshop skills (PLO 1–4; Assignment D).
4. Produce a polished portfolio of short stories that demonstrates understanding of short story elements and conventions (PLO 1–4; Assignment E).

B. Specific competencies to be achieved. You will be able to:

1. Apply advanced knowledge literary elements in poetry in your own writing (PLO 1, 2, 4; Assignments A–E).
2. Use journaling to get ideas for creative writing projects and develop creative writing skills (PLO 1–4; Assignment A–C).
3. Review peer creative writing in a professional manner (PLO 2, 3; Assignment D).
4. Revise, edit, and proofread work to produce a polished portfolio (PLO 1–4; Assignment E).

III. REQUIRED MATERIALS

A. Required Textbooks

- **The Bible** is a required textbook in every course at Calvary University. To facilitate academic level study, students are required to use for assignments and research an English translation or version of the Bible based on formal equivalence (*meaning that the translation is generally word-for-word from the original languages*), including any of the following: New American Standard (NASB), English Standard Version (ESV), New King James (NKJV), or King James (KJV). Other translations and versions based on dynamic equivalence (*paraphrases, and thought-for-thought translations like NLT and NIV*) may be used as supplemental sources. Please ask the professor if you have questions about a particular translation or version.
- Burroway, Janet. 2010. *Imaginative Writing: The Elements of Craft* (4th Edition). Pearson. ISBN: 978-0134053240. Price: \$51.97 (used) or \$63.32 (new). *Some used copies can be found for even cheaper.* ([Link to purchase Imaginative Writing on Amazon](#))

IV. REQUIREMENTS

A. Reading Assignments

1. Readings are assigned weekly (see Calendar below).
2. Students will demonstrate an understanding of each reading assignment by answering prompts provided in Canvas.

B. Attendance and Participation

1. During each class, the professor will assign activities that must be completed by all students (in-class and online). These activities may be writing exercises, notes, discussion board questions, etc. Follow instructions to complete the activities. These participation activities must be uploaded to Canvas before the next class period.
2. Students will follow instructions to complete the activities. For example, "Write about XXXX and submit it on Canvas" or "Discuss XXXX on the Canvas Discussion Board."
3. **After 3 absences, each additional absence will result in a 10% grade reduction.**
4. **For online students, two weeks without submissions on Canvas will result in a 10% grade reduction.**

C. Writing Journal

1. Students will keep a creative writing journal, used solely for this class, in which they will take notes, jot down ideas, brainstorm, and experiment with various creative writing elements and forms. Students are expected to spend at least 10 minutes a day, 5 days each week journaling.
2. This daily habit will generate a library of poem ideas that students will develop into drafts.
3. Students will demonstrate completion of journal activities in their final Reflection Letter in the final portfolio (see E. Portfolio below).

D. Draft Workshops

1. Workshops are a chance to get peer feedback on drafts in progress. Six workshops will take place over the course of the cycle. Each workshop requires both a submission of a draft **and** participation in giving feedback. Students will submit 6 poems of no more than 5 double-spaced pages in length unless otherwise specified (see Canvas for details).
2. Drafts are uploaded on the Canvas Discussion Board. Both online and in-class students will then review **each** student's draft and provide feedback based on the Discussion Board's instructions (see Canvas).

E. Portfolio

1. The Portfolio contains three **polished** pieces that demonstrate the sub-genres covered in class. Students may select any of the drafts they submitted to workshop for inclusion in the portfolio (see Canvas for specific requirements of sub-genres).
2. Poems included in the portfolio must have gone through a workshop and been revised. Working with a tutor in the Clark Academic Center will add another layer of polish to the story *but does not count as going through the workshop*. **Drafts that have not been revised will be given 0 points. Meaningful revision must have taken place. Draftable will be used to highlight meaningful revision.**
3. Along with each portfolio piece, students will include a self-review that assesses their work (see Canvas).
4. After the portfolio pieces have been selected and reviewed, students will write a reflection letter that details how their writing has changed over the course of the semester (see Canvas for details).
5. The portfolio is submitted on Canvas like all other assignments.
6. Students will present their portfolio during the last week of class. All students will submit a video recording of their presentation. These presentations will be handled as if students were pitching to an editorial board. Details for this assignment may be found in Canvas.

V. METHODS

A. Lectures, Textbook Reading, Additional Required Reading, Discussing, Writing, Workshopping, Portfolio.

B. Grading

Attendance/Participation (23 x 10)	230 points
Workshop Participation (12 x 15)	180 points
Reading Prompts (15 x 20)	300 points
Discussion Board/Writing Assignments (10 x 15)	150 points
Portfolio	
3 Poems (3 x 100)	
Self-Review of each Portfolio piece (3x25)	
Portfolio Reflection (25)	400 points
Portfolio Presentation	75 points
Total:	1,380 points

VI. TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

Week	Topic	Due Dates and Times <i>All assignments are due by class time.</i>
1-2	What is Poetry? Major Styles & Phonemes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appendix A (Reading Prompts 1-2)
3-4	Lines	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chapter 10 (chapter content and poems only) (Reading Prompts 3-4) • Workshop 1-2
5-6	Rhythm and Meter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chapters 1–2 (chapter content and poems only) (Reading Prompts 5-6) • Workshop 3-4
7-8	Sound and Rhyme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chapters 3–4 (chapter content and poems only) (Reading Prompts 7-8) • Workshop 5-6
9-10	Words	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chapters 5–6 (chapter content and poems only) (Reading Prompts 9-10) • Workshop 7-8
11-12	Stanzas and Genres	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Online Reading (Prompts 11-12) • Workshop 9-10
13-14	Syntax and Punctuation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Online Reading (Prompts 13-14) • Workshop 11-12
15-16	Revision, Publication Discussion, Portfolio Presentations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chapter 7 (Reading Prompt 15) • Portfolio Presentations • Portfolio

IX. NOTICES

1. **Accommodations Support:** Students with disabilities have the responsibility of informing the Accommodations Support Coordinator (aso@calvary.edu) of any disabling condition that may require support.
2. **The Clark Academic Center:** The Clark Academic Center (learning@calvary.edu) is dedicated to providing free academic assistance for Calvary University students. Student tutors aid with all facets of the writing process, tutor in various subject areas, prepare students for exams and facilitate tests. Please take advantage of this service.
3. **Late Work** receives -10% from the final grade per day late. This will continue for 3 days, and then the assignment will receive a 0 and be permanently closed.
4. **Plagiarism** *Plagiarism is defined as copying any content without identifying the source. This also includes taking another person’s or AI entity’s ideas or constructs and presenting them as your own. Plagiarism of any kind will not be tolerated. Most assignments at Calvary require the*

student to produce original work. Therefore, unless specifically permitted by the instructor, the use of AI-generated content is prohibited (even if cited) as it does not represent original work created by the student and is an unreliable aggregate of ideas from other sources. AI, however, may be utilized in cases where the instructor has explicitly permitted its use to accomplish specific tasks. It is only in these cases that AI-generated (or modified) content may be submitted by the student. If there are any questions as to the permissibility of AI use for an assignment, please ask your instructor for clarification. (Note: Turn-It-In.com will be used to verify assignment integrity.)

5. **Originality:** Plagiarism is defined as copying any content without identifying the source. This also includes taking another person's or AI entity's ideas or constructs and presenting them as your own. Plagiarism of any kind will not be tolerated. Most assignments at Calvary require the student to produce original work. Therefore, unless specifically permitted by the instructor, the use of AI-generated content is prohibited (even if cited) as it does not represent original work created by the student and is an unreliable aggregate of ideas from other sources. AI, however, may be utilized in cases where the instructor has explicitly permitted its use to accomplish specific tasks. It is only in these cases that AI-generated (or modified) content may be submitted by the student. If there are any questions as to the permissibility of AI use for an assignment, please ask your instructor for clarification.
6. **Style Guide:** Poems do not follow a set style. The reflections and self-reviews should follow the MLA 8th edition formatting, but outside research is not required.