

English 204B

Creative Writing: Poetry

Fall 2022

Instructor: Emily Ho

Office: [Zoom](#)

Office Hours: 9:30-10:30 TTH or by appt.

Email: ho44@hawaii.edu

Phone: 808.723.4143

Course Information:

English 204B Introduction to Creative Writing (Poetry) introduces students to the basic practices and principles involved in the writing and publication of poems.

Grade of “C” or better in ENG 100, or consent of instructor. Students should possess a strong foundational knowledge of grammar, word usage, and punctuation. Additionally, students must be able to accept constructive criticism from peers and the instructor.

Required Texts:

All of our readings will be available online

You will be required to use GoogleDocs

Course Description

This course is designed to prepare students to write poetry for publication. Part of publication is understanding your audience, getting to know your desired publication, and how to produce your best work. Reading is just as important as writing—they go hand in hand, reflexively informing one another—so as much as you will be writing for this class, you will also be reading.

We'll be completing our 16 week semester in three units, with the final weeks dedicated to your manuscript. Each week will have an assigned reading accompanied by assignments. Sometimes this discussion/reflection will be done by way of a collaborative online community.

The three units will be:

1. Read for Publication
2. Workshop for Publication
3. Revise for Publication

The semester will culminate in a manuscript that demonstrates your growth over the semester by including revised products and a self-evaluating essay.

Course Goals

- Create original poems that reflect a skillful use of literary devices, forms, and conventions.
- Analyze poems written by peers and published authors.
- Propose and employ feedback in the writing workshop model.
- Evaluate and submit poems for publication.

Instructional Methods

Each of our three units will be broken down into four modules. The first week of class is reserved for orientation, and the last for work on your final manuscript, in all totaling 16 weeks. You are required to meet with me digitally a few times throughout the semester, based on your availability. Remember that the suggested study/prep time for a 3 credit hour course is 6-9 hours per week.

Reading: Each week you will complete online readings/assignments, and then submit a written response via a reading quiz.

Discussion/Presentation: Every two weeks, lessons will be community based. A discussion based on your readings and your assignments from earlier in the week will be central, as we will discuss these concepts and ideas as a group. The larger group discussions will be preceded by smaller groups discussions that have occurred prior to the larger group discussion.

Additionally, students will be scheduled to lead certain discussions, and will also present via recorded video at least once in the semester.

Participation Policy

Every class member brings a unique skill set and perspective to the classroom, and when you participate you are not only learning, but teaching others. As such, I will be cold calling every discussion. This means that instead of a stale, one-and-done post to the discussion board, I will ask certain students to answer questions. That said, if you are nervous or aren't sure you'll have the correct answer, preface your response with, *"I'm not sure, but I think that . . ."* Every student should be prepared to participate at random during discussion, so do your reading and prep prior to discussion.

Evaluation

In this course, you will be evaluated by how well you express the course outcomes in your writing. I encourage you to make use of your peers, online resources, and meeting individually with me.

Though grading can often feel subjective, I try very hard to be objective with grading. That means I use the rubric and our course goals as my guiding stars, and I have your best interest in mind at all times. I will provide a rubric for each writing assignment, read and use them.

Grades are a form of communication, both to you and the university, regarding the quality of your performance in relation to the standard and to your peer group. If you ever believe your work has been mistakenly or unfairly evaluated, please come and express your concerns to me. I ask that you read the rubric, your work, and my comments, and that you wait **at least one day** from the time you receive your graded work before you contact me. This does not apply if there is some clerical or mathematical error on my part, let me know about those errors as soon as you spot them.

A	93%	C+	77%	Assignment Grading Breakdown	
A-	90%	C	73%	Reading and Submissions journal Workshopping	20%
B+	87%	C-	70%	Workshopping	20%
B	83%	D+	67%	Discussion participation	15%

B-	80%	D	63%	Presentation	15%
C+	77%	D-	60%	<u>Final Project</u>	<u>30%</u>
C	73%	E	0%	Total	100%

Final Project: At the end of the semester, you will have constructed a manuscript that demonstrates how your writing skills have improved through revision. This manuscript will also contain a self-critical essay detailing how your knowledge of reading, revision, and workshopping has improved you as a writer. There is a formal assignment description that we'll go over in depth later, but for now, just know that you have a 8-10 page manuscript of your own revisions, and self-analysis as a Final Project.

Reflection Journal: At the end of every week, take 5-10 minutes to reflect on your progress, and the skills you've learned. This is a good place to keep notes on your readings, as well. This Journal should be kept as a Google Doc with all entries compiled chronologically. *This means that every time you write a new entry, you scroll down to begin writing under the last entry.* Each time you turn this document in at the end of the week, it will grow longer and longer. At the end of the semester, you'll write yourself a letter on how you've grown, what you've learned, and what you plan to improve on. These journals are time sensitive, and **will not be accepted late**. They will be graded based on depth and rigor, and a rubric will be provided.

Presentations: After learning how to read for publication, you will be asked to find a journal on your own, one that piques your interest, and you will then present on that journal. You will research that journal, and provide information on what type of work they publish, how long they have been established, what they're reader base is like, and provide your found knowledge with the class. The goal of this is to create a more contextualized experience for your understanding of journals, and help you to find a journal you would like to submit work to yourself.

You will be presenting your findings in Discussion. If you cannot make it to your assigned Discussion date, you will notify me one week in advance and we will make accommodations for you to complete the assignment differently.

Classroom Procedures

Late Assignments: Assignments are due on Canvas on the specified dates. After the due date, an assignment will only be eligible to receive half credit.

Presentations, discussions, and journals cannot be turned in late.

If you have trouble keeping up or have unforeseen extenuating circumstances, **talk to me before you have a problem. For example, do not come to me on the day a paper is due and tell me you haven't completed it because you have been sick. I can't work with you unless you tell me that you are struggling with your assignment **well before** the due date.

Communication: When in doubt, consult the Canvas first. It is your guide to what reading/homework assignments will be due each week. If Canvas doesn't answer your question, ask your classmates or go to the syllabus. If you still have a question after consulting the syllabus, your classmates, AND Canvas, please text me. **Please also check your email and announcements regularly.**

That said, I trust that you, my adult students, will accept responsibility for your own education. You will consult the modules weekly in order to stay on top of assignments, you will complete assigned readings prior to discussion, and you will prepare ahead of time for your presentations.

If you have questions or concerns, please contact me. I am happy to text with you, chat with you on the phone, answer all your burning questions via email. Please stay in close contact. As with any other classes, your experience in this class will depend on your effort and attitude. Take your education into your own hands, you are responsible for your own grade.

Failure Policy: If you are plagiarizing any work at any point, those are grounds for failure of the course. Do your own work, and submit. Even if it does turn out to be ill-formed offspring of your feeble brain, at least it's yours.

Required Format: All papers submitted for this course must be typed with 1-inch margins in Times New Roman 12-point font, double spaced. They must also adhere to current MLA (Modern Language Association) style guidelines. The [Purdue OWL \(Links to an external site.\)](#) online is an excellent resource for MLA style; you can also visit the Reading Writing Center's [MLA Reference Section \(Links to an external site.\)](#) for detailed formatting rules. Please do not attempt to alter assignment length by changing fonts, margins, etc.

Use the following heading for ALL submissions:

Your last name, pg #

(watch [this video](#) to see how to make this a header)

Your full preferred name

Ho/ENG 200

Assignment Title

Date

DISABILITIES ACCOMMODATIONS

If you have a physical, sensory, health, cognitive, or mental health disability that could limit your ability to fully participate in this class, you are encouraged to contact the Accessibility Counselor to discuss reasonable accommodations that will help you succeed in this class. Roy Inouye can be reached at (808) 235-7448, royinouy@hawaii.edu, or you may stop by Hale Kāko‘o 106 for more information.

SEX DISCRIMINATION AND GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE RESOURCES (TITLE IX)

Windward Community College is committed to providing a learning, working, and living environment that promotes personal integrity, civility, and mutual respect and is free of all forms of sex discrimination and gender-based violence, including sexual assault, sexual harassment, gender-based harassment, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking.

If you or someone you know is experiencing any of these, WCC has staff and resources to support and assist you. To report an incident of sex discrimination or gender-based violence, as well as receive information and support, please contact one of the following:

Jojo Miller, Confidential Advocate

Phone: (808) 348-0663
Email: advocate@hawaii.edu
Office: Hale Kāko‘o 110

Desrae Kahale, Mental Health Counselor & Confidential Resource
Phone: (808) 235-7393
Email: dkahale3@hawaii.edu
Office: Hale Kāko‘o 101

Karen Cho, Deputy Title IX Coordinator
Phone: (808) 235-7404
Email: kcho@hawaii.edu
Office: Hale ‘Alaka’i 120

As a member of the University faculty, I am required to immediately report any incident of sex discrimination or gender-based violence to the campus Title IX Coordinator. Although the Title IX Coordinator and I cannot guarantee confidentiality, you will still have options about how your case will be handled. My goal is to make sure you are aware of the range of options available to you and have access to the resources and support you need.

For more information regarding sex discrimination and gender-based violence, the University’s Title IX resources and the University’s Policy, Interim EP 1.204, go to manoa.hawaii.edu/titleix/

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Work submitted by a student must be the student’s own work. The work of others should be explicitly marked, such as through use of quotes or summarizing with reference to the original author.

In this class, students who commit academic dishonesty, cheating or plagiarism will have the following consequence(s):

Students will receive a failing grade for plagiarized assignments.

All cases of academic dishonesty are referred to the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs.

ALTERNATE CONTACT INFORMATION

If you are unable to contact the instructor, have questions that your instructor cannot answer, or for any other issues, please contact the Academic Affairs Office:

- Location: Alaka'i 121
- Phone: (808) 235-7422