

Department of English & Writing Studies

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Winter 2024

Course Description

This course explores the connection between poetry and well-being, human flourishing, and the efficacy of the poem. How do people write and read poetry to expand, calm, or boost their spirits? We will look closely at a poem that works on the level of the plain, how poetry becomes a privileged literary form for the feeling and feeling of all kinds. Today we would call it mental health, but we will be reading and interpreting the idea of well-being from the past and therefore will discuss the history of the term, its challenge, and model for poetry unfamiliar to our own. We will compare some of the 17th and 18th century poetry to more contemporary poetry.

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By the end of the course, students will be able to:

- interpret literary texts and practice close reading at a more advanced level
- write an analysis of a text that has an argumentative and persuasive element
- incorporate some secondary source information into writing
- prepare and deliver a researched and coherent presentation of a topic

Guidelines for essays and assignments will be provided and will be discussed in class.

Course Material

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Schedule

Jan 8 and 10
Pema Chodron, *M* Chapter 4 Breath and Chapter 5 Advice. Boulder: Sound True, 2013. Pp 37-45.

Henry Vaughan, *The Relea*, *The Delling Place*, and *The Night in S* -C
B P, 1603-1660, edited by John Rich and Gregor Chaplin. NY: Norton, 2006. pp 595-596, 609-611

Jan 15 and 17

Saint John of the Cross, *O Living Flame of Love* in *The Poetry of St. John of the Cross*, translated by William Barnstone, NY: New Directions, 1972. Pp 56-57

Pierre Hado, *Spiritual Exercises* in *The Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignace of Loyola*, translated by Arnold Davidson, NY: Oxford: Blackwell, 1995. Pp 81-109

Jan 22 and 24

Ariosto, *Orlando Furioso*: *Sixteenth-Century Italian Epic*, translated by S. Anselmi, Princeton: Princeton UP, 2023. Pp. 249-273

Andre Marvell, *The Garden*, in *The Norton anthology of English literature, 1603-1660*, edited by John R. Murrich and Gregor Chaplin. NY: Norton, 2006. pp 553-555

(OPTIONAL) *Hamlet*, translated by Brian Copenhaver. Cambridge UP, 1992. Pp 37-42.

Lois Glück, *Blue Ronda* in *A*

Feb 17-25 S d Break

Feb 26 and 28

John Mil on, Il Pen ero o, in *S -C P : A A A*, edi ed b
Rober C mming . O ford: Black ell, 2000. Pp 268-273.

William Sieghar , from *T P P* NY: Par ic lar Book /Peng in, 2018. Pp iii- i ,
2-3, 30-33

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In-class e a e 25%

Re i ion and e pan ion of e q e ion in o e a 5-7 page 25%

Group Teach par of a cla (20-30 min e) 15% for oral pre en a ion

Teaching re i ion: anal i in re earch con e

http://www.utoronto.ca/nice/pdf/academic_policies/appeal/cholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf

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