MINNESOTA WEST COMMUNITY & TECHNICAL COLLEGE
COURSE OUTLINE

Faculty are required to have the outline submitted to the Academic Affairs Office. The course outline is the form used for approval of new courses by the Collegewide Curriculum Committee.

DEPT. English COURSE NO. 1141

NUMBER OF CREDITS: 2

COURSE TITLE: Writing and Reading Poetry

CATALOG DESCRIPTION: Introduces students to basic elements of poetry and provides instruction in using these in the students’ own writing. The class is conducted in an informal workshop environment where students will participate in offering and receiving constructive criticism about each other’s writing. Prerequisite: College-level writing placement, Engl 0090, or consent of instructor.

AUDIENCE: College students and community members with an interest in clear, confident, and creative communication.

FULFILLS MN TRANSFER CURRICULUM AREA(S): Area 6 by meeting the following competencies: a, b, c, d, and e.

PREREQUISITES OR NECESSARY ENTRY SKILLS/KNOWLEDGE: College-level writing placement, Engl 0090, or consent of instructor.

LENGTH OF COURSE: One semester

THIS COURSE IS USUALLY OFFERED:
Every other year □ fall x spring □ summer □ undetermined □

Four goals are emphasized in course at Minnesota West Community & Technical College:

1) ACADEMIC CONTENT: In this course, students will learn to recognize basic elements of poetry and use them in their writing. Students will become familiar with the work of a variety of contemporary poets. They will understand and emulate the writing practices of successful poets and practice good writing habits as they complete a portfolio of their own poetry and related writing.

2) THINKING SKILLS: This course will help students improve the effectiveness of their thinking skills through analysis, criticism, and discussion of the ideas, strengths and weaknesses of assigned poems, their own writing, and the writing of their peers.

3) COMMUNICATIONS SKILLS: This course will help students improve their oral and written communication skills through frequent writing assignments, oral presentation and classroom critique of their writing, exposure to examples of successful writing by others, class discussion of these examples, a variety of skill-building exercises, and a public reading of finished poems.
4) **HUMAN DIVERSITY:** This course will help students recognize, understand, and appreciate human diversity through reading poems and reflections by living writers from various racial, ethnic, and cultural backgrounds. Students will use writing to define what they see, contemplate, and experience, and they will learn to share their experiences creatively with various types of audiences.

**TOPICS TO BE COVERED:** The creative writing process, elements of poetry, completion of a portfolio of poems, verbal and written critique of poems.

**LIST OF EXPECTED COURSE OUTCOMES:**
1. Students will understand creative writing processes.
2. Students will understand basic elements of poetry.
3. Students will become familiar with a variety of contemporary poets.
4. Students will become comfortable reading their work aloud to an audience.
5. Students will develop and improve their critical thinking skills.
6. Students will develop and practice good revising and editing skills.

**LEARNING/TEACHING TECHNIQUES** used in the course are:
- Collaborative Learning
- Student Presentations
- Creative Projects
- Lecture
- Demonstrations
- Lab

**ASSIGNMENTS AND ASSESSMENTS FOR THIS CLASS INCLUDE:**
- Reading
- Oral Presentations
- Textbook Problems
- Group Problems
- Other (describe below)

**EXPECTED STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:** This course will prepare students to write creatively and communicate more successfully about creative work. Successful students will understand that writing is a process they can learn. They will become more confident, competent, and creative thinkers and writers through practice, critique, and revision.

*The information in this course outline is subject to revision*

**Veteran Services:** Minnesota West is dedicated to assisting veterans and eligible family members in achieving their educational goals efficiently. Active duty and reserve/guard military members should advise their instructor of all regularly scheduled military appointments and duties that conflict with scheduled course requirements. Instructors will make every effort to work with the student to identify adjusted timelines. If you are a veteran, please contact the Minnesota West Veterans Service Office.

To receive reasonable accommodations for a documented disability, please contact the campus Student Services Advisor or campus Disability Coordinator as arrangements must be made in advance. In addition, students are encouraged to notify their instructor.

*This document is available in alternative formats to individuals with disabilities by contacting the Student Services Advisor or by calling 800-658-2330 or Minnesota Relay Service at 800-627-3529 or by using your preferred relay service.*
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