

TERM: Spring 2026
COURSE NUMBER & CATEGORY: ENGL 2107: Intro to Poetry
COURSE TITLE: An Introduction to Poetry
SECTION TIMES/DAYS: TR 9:55-11:35 am
INSTRUCTOR: Stephen SHEPHERD

COURSE DESCRIPTION/PRINCIPAL TOPICS:

The Irish poet W. B. Yeats once posed the question, "How can we know the dancer from the dance?" Poetry, like dance, or music, inevitably presents a simultaneous instantiation of art and technique. Using a judicious combination of acquisition of critical terminologies, critical assessment of representative (and often famous) poems, and exercises in constructing one's own poetic expressions, this course will investigate the ways in which poetic technique facilitates poetic art.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

- Students will be able to recognize and analyze specific poetic techniques as evidenced in a diverse range of canonical and non-canonical poetry, written across different periods and places
- Students will engage with poetry through a combination of critical, technical, and creative assignments

CLASS LEVEL RESTRICTION:

N/A

RECOMMENDED/PREREQUISITES:

N/A

COURSE ATTRIBUTES:

This course does not count toward the English major or minor requirements; however, English majors interested in creative writing are advised to take one lower-division ENGL 2100 course to satisfy the Core Curriculum EXP: Creative Experience requirement.

CORE ATTRIBUTES:

Creative Experience (ECRE)