# CR COLLEGE OF THE REDWOODS

# Syllabus for English 32: Poetry

## Course Information

Semester & Year: Fall 2020
Course ID & Section #: E9748
Instructor's name: David Holper
[if synchronous] Day/Time of required meetings:
[if in-person] Location:
[if needed] Number of proctored exams:
Course units: 3

## Instructor Contact Information

Office location or *Online: Online
Office hours: By appointment
Phone number: (707) 601-3049
Email address: david-holper@redwoods.edu (use Canvas email, not this generic email)

Catalog Description
A study in developing the art of writing poetry, emphasizing communication, clarity, and economy. Students read and analyze many types of poetry while they generate, develop, critique, and revise their own and others' texts.

## Course Student Learning Outcomes

1. Differentiate and utilize concrete detail and abstraction in poetry.
2. Control grammar and punctuation to clarify ideas.
3. Apply a process-oriented approach to writing poetry that involves inventing, drafting, revising, and editing.
4. 4. Compose original written texts, using genre-specific structures and formal conventions.

Required Texts/Materials:

1) *Poetry: A Pocket Anthology*, 6th ed.  Edited by R. S. Gwynn
2) A poet's notebook.
3) A binder or folder for class handouts

Welcome to English 32!  I'm excited to be your teacher, and I hope that each of us will enjoy and learn a great deal during this semester.  This will be an intensive course because I will ask a lot of each one of you, but in return, I hope you will find this to be one of your most memorable writing classes.  The primary goals of this course are to teach you how to develop your own distinct poetic voice, to improve your creative writing skills in several different styles and forms, to learn how to critique other people's work fairly and in depth, and to find out how to submit your work for publication.  Beyond that--and perhaps more importantly--I want you to learn to write more powerfully, passionately, and naturally.

Your Instructor: Professor Holper has done a little of everything, including taxi driver, fire fighter, cook, soldier, house painter, and teacher.  He earned his BA

in English at Humboldt State University, where he also studied journalism. After his graduation, he served for four years in the Army Military Intelligence Corps, then went on to earn a Masters of Fine Arts in English at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst, where he wrote a book of short stories. Since then, he has published a number of stories and poems. He has published two books of poetry and is the current Poet Laureate for the City of Eureka. Currently he lives in Eureka and teaches full-time at CR.

Format: All outside-of-class assignment must be typed and turned in with preliminary drafts (which may be handwritten). If you fail to include the earlier draft, you will receive only half of the points.

Asynchronous Work and Deadlines: We will not be meeting as a group at a specific time. It will be your responsibility to log onto Canvas at the start of each week, read over the assigned work, and complete everything you have to do that week by Sunday at midnight.

Census Week: Be aware that if in the first three weeks of class you've missed two classes and have not turned in work, your name will be cleared from the class roster. If you're in this boat and haven't talked to David yet about your situation, you should do so as soon as possible. It's fairly easy to be reinstated if you're accidentally dropped, but it's easier still to avoid being dropped in the first place.

Required Reading: We will read a number of poems a week from the *Poetry: Pocket Anthology,* as well as reading assigned through the class website, which you will have to print yourself. You are strongly encouraged to mark up your book or handouts, save favorite poems or quotes in your writer's journals, and make notes all over the assigned reading.

Required Writing: We will write two poems for most weeks of class. These exercises at a minimum include a rough draft of a poem and a revision. Better yet, the goal is to write three poems a week, every week, for 16 weeks. You'll turn two poems each week to your instructor (with an attached rough draft on the back of each), and each poem is worth 20 pts. (Note: if you turn in only a single draft, you'll only receive 10 points.) In addition, you will need to submit three polished pieces and a cover letter for the booklet that we'll put together near the end of the semester, and this work is worth 100 pts. If your work is too personal to include in the Polished Piece Booklet at the end of the semester, you will receive no points for those pieces, i.e., it must be published. A revision is more than correcting spelling errors; a revision should show significant progress in your writing. If you turn in a revision that is generally the same as the earlier draft, you may get the second draft back as having no credit (with a request that you accomplish a more substantive revision).

Memorization: During the course of the semester, you'll be required to memorize one poem from your book (*Poetry: A Pocket Anthology*). You're free to choose a work you strongly admire, but if it's not in the book, please email

the poem to your instructor before you memorize it and make sure it's okay—and that's not the day you'll recite.  Children's verse is not acceptable.  It's important that we all memorize poetry to get it into our heads, our hearts; to feel it on our tongues, to know it well.  It's strongly recommended that you practice several times at home or with a friend before you recite.  Recitations will be via Zoom with your instructor.  This exercise is worth 20 pts.

Publication: In order to encourage you to submit your work for publication, you may receive 20 pts. of credit (on a one-time basis) if you provide David a rejection letter, or better yet, if you have a piece accepted for publication during this semester.  You'll need to forward your letter of acceptance in an email as a means to verify your acceptance.

## COMMUNICATION

Communication in this course will occur through Announcements, Discussions, Canvas Inbox, Individual Zoom Conferences, and Feedback on Writing Assignments.

- Your instructor will convey important updates through Announcements.
- Discussions will be used for the instructor and students to converse about academic topics.
- Canvas email will be used for one-on-one questions and correspondence.
  - Check your Canvas email daily.
  - Include your course number in subject lines of emails to instructors.
  - Email instructor to schedule a Zoom meeting.
  - Expect a response within 24-48 hours, with the exceptions of weekends and holidays.

## NETIQUETTE

You are expected to interact with your instructor and peers in a respectful and professional manner.  You should also adhere to the following expectations when communicating in an online environment:

*Do…*

- Ask questions and engage in conversations as often as possible
- Be patient and respectful of others and their ideas they post online
- Be prepared to wait for a response – you may not receive an immediate response

- Contact the instructor to report inappropriate or offensive communications
- Allow for 24-48 hours for instructor response
- Allow for one week for grade feedback on papers

## Do NOT…

- Use inappropriate language—this includes, but is not limited to, the use of curse words and offensive terms.
- Post inappropriate materials—this includes, but is not limited to, sharing nude, offensive, and graphic images.
- Post in ALL CAPS, as this is perceived as shouting, and avoid abbreviations and informal language (ex. "C U L8R").
- Send or respond to heated messages.
- Send an email to the entire class, unless it requires a response from all classmates.

## Prerequisites/co-requisites/ recommended preparation

Not applicable

## Accessibility

Students will have access to online course materials that comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and College of the Redwoods policies. Students who discover access issues with this class should contact the instructor.

College of the Redwoods is also committed to making reasonable accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. If you have a disability or believe you might benefit from disability-related services and accommodations, please contact your instructor or Disability Services and Programs for Students (DSPS). Students may make requests for alternative media by contacting DSPS based on their campus location:

- Eureka: 707-476-4280, student services building, 1st floor
- Del Norte: 707-465-2324, main building near library
- Klamath-Trinity: 530-625-4821 Ext 103

During COVID19, approved accommodations for distance education classes will be emailed to the instructor by DSPS. In the case of face to face instruction, please present your written accommodation request to your instructor at least one week before the first test so that necessary arrangements can be made.  Last-minute arrangements or post-test adjustments cannot usually be accommodated.

*Other verbiage you can include if you want:*

## Support for online learners during COVID-19

In response to COVID-19, College of the Redwoods moved the majority of its courses online to protect health and safety. As the faculty and students adjust to this change, clear communication about student needs will help everyone be successful. Please let me know about any specific challenges or technology limitations that might affect your participation in class. I want every student to thrive.

## Evaluation & Grading Policy

This is one of the few CR courses that may be taken for pass/no pass rather than for a grade. You are encouraged to take advantage of this option to free yourself to write without worrying about a grade. For a grade of pass/no pass, you must apply in the Admissions & Records office before 9/18/20. Not completing the credit requirements described would result in a No Pass grade if you had applied for the pass/no pass option. If you had not applied for this option, it would mean a grade of D or F.

If you do not apply for the pass/no pass option, your grade will consist of

1) Weekly exercises: 20 pts. for each poem with rough draft you complete (10 pts. per draft)
2) Weekly feedback on others' poems (5 pts. per week)
3) Memorization/recitation: 20 pts.
4) A call for poems: 100 pts. each
5) Polished piece for class booklet: 100 pts. each
6) Attendance at final: 50 pts.

## Admissions deadlines & enrollment policies

Fall 2020 Dates
- *Classes begin: 8/22/20*
- *Last day to add a class: 8/28/20*
- *Last day to drop without a W and receive a refund: 9/4/20*
- *Labor Day (all-college holiday): 9/7/20*
- *Census date: 9/8/20 or 20% into class duration*
- *Last day to petition to file P/NP option: 9/18/20*
- *Last day to petition to graduate or apply for certificate: 10/29/20*
- *Last day for student-initiated W (no refund): 10/30/20*
- *Last day for faculty initiated W (no refund): 10/30/20*
- *Veteran's Day (all-college holiday): 11/11/20*
- *Fall break (no classes): 11/23/20-11/28/20*
- *Thanksgiving (all-college holiday): 11/25/20-11/27/20*
- *Final examinations: 12/12/20-12/18/20*
- *Semester ends: 12/18/20*
- *Grades available for transcript release: approximately 1/8/21*

Students who have experienced extenuating circumstances can complete & submit the *Excused Withdrawal Petition* to request an Excused Withdrawal (EW) grade instead of the current Withdrawal (W) or non-passing (D, F & NP) grades. The EW Petition is available from the Admissions and Records Forms Webpage. Supporting documentation is required.

## Academic dishonesty

In the academic community, the high value placed on truth implies a corresponding intolerance of scholastic dishonesty. In cases involving academic dishonesty, determination of the grade and of the student's status in the course is left primarily to the discretion of the faculty member. In such cases, where the instructor determines that a student has demonstrated academic dishonesty, the student may receive a failing grade for the assignment and/or exam and may be reported to the Chief Student Services Officer or designee. The Student Code of Conduct (AP 5500) is available on the College of the Redwoods website. Additional information about the rights and responsibilities of students, Board policies, and administrative procedures is located in the College Catalog and on the College of the Redwoods website.

## Disruptive behavior

Student behavior or speech that disrupts the instructional setting will not be tolerated. Disruptive conduct may include, but is not limited to: unwarranted interruptions; failure to adhere to instructor's directions; vulgar or obscene language;

slurs or other forms of intimidation; and physically or verbally abusive behavior. In such cases where the instructor determines that a student has disrupted the educational process, a disruptive student may be temporarily removed from class. In addition, the student may be reported to the Chief Student Services Officer or designee. The Student Code of Conduct (AP 5500) is available on the College of the Redwoods website.  Additional information about the rights and responsibilities of students, Board policies, and administrative procedures is located in the College Catalog and on the College of the Redwoods website.

## Inclusive Language in the Classroom

College of the Redwoods aspires to create a learning environment in which all people feel comfortable in contributing their perspectives to classroom discussions. It therefore encourages instructors and students to use language that is inclusive and respectful.

## Setting Your Preferred Name in Canvas

Students have the ability to have an alternate first name and pronouns to appear in Canvas. Contact Admissions & Records to request a change to your preferred first name and pronoun. Your Preferred Name will only be listed in Canvas. It does not change your legal name in our records. See the Student Information Update form.

## Canvas Information

We'll use Canvas as our course learning management system.  After you've familiarized yourself with the Home Page for our course and watched the introductory video I've made for you, you should go look at the Modules, which you'll find set up by week.  You'll find both readings and poetry exercises in each week for you to do, as well as discussion posts and a place to provide feedback on other people's poems.  Canvas also has a gradebook, so if you're curious what your grade is on any individual assignment or for the course, you can find it by clicking on the grade link.

Log into Canvas at https://redwoods.instructure.com
Password is your 8 digit birth date
For tech help, email its@redwoods.edu or call 707-476-4160
Canvas Help for students: https://www.redwoods.edu/online/Help-Student
Canvas online orientation workshop: https://www.redwoods.edu/online/Home/Student-Resources/Canvas-Resources

## Community College Student Health and Wellness

Resources, tools, and trainings regarding health, mental health, wellness, basic needs and more designed for California community college students, faculty and staff are available on the California Community Colleges Health & Wellness website.

Wellness Central is a free online health and wellness resource that is available 24/7 in your space at your pace.

Students seeking to request a counseling appointment for academic advising or general counseling can email counseling@redwoods.edu.

## Student Support Services

The following online resources are available to support your success as a student:
- CR-Online (Comprehensive information for online students)
- Library Articles & Databases
- Canvas help and tutorials
- Online Student Handbook

Counseling  offers assistance to students in need of professional counseling services such as crisis counseling.

Learning Resource Center includes the following resources for students

- Academic Support Center for instructional support, tutoring, learning resources, and proctored exams. Includes the Math Lab & Drop-in Writing Center
- Library Services to promote information literacy and provide organized information resources.
- Multicultural & Diversity Center

Special programs are also available for eligible students include

- Extended Opportunity Programs & Services (EOPS) provides financial assistance, support and encouragement for eligible income disadvantaged students at all CR locations.
- The TRiO Student Success Program provides eligible students with a variety of services including trips to 4-year universities, career assessments, and peer mentoring. Students can apply for the program in Eureka or in Del Norte
- The Veteran's Resource Center supports and facilitates academic success for Active Duty Military, Veterans and Dependents attending CR through relational advising, mentorship, transitional assistance, and coordination of military and Veteran-specific resources.
- Klamath-Trinity students can contact the CR KT Office for specific information about student support services at 530-625-4821

Note:  This syllabus may be modified during the course of the semester, as needed.  If there are corrections or additions, these will be posted on the syllabus calendar, which can be found on the course website.

Calendar

Week 1

Watch welcome video and overview of Week 1
Take getting to know you survey
Introductions (discussion format)
Read these poems as models for Exercise 1
Read over guidelines of giving feedback
Optional: New to Poetry Reading

HW:

Exercise 1: draft
Exercise 1: revision (give feedback on 3)
Exercise 2: draft
Exercise 2: revision (give feedback on 3)

Week 2

Watch Week 2 overview video
Open Mike: Friday 1 pm on Zoom (or via discussion)
Read these poems as models for Exercise 3
Read chapter from *The Triggering Town*

HW:

Rules for an open mike: Discussion
Exercise 3: draft
Exercise 3: revision (give feedback on 3)
Exercise 4: draft
Exercise 4: revision (give feedback on 3)

Week 3

Watch Week 3 overview video
Open Mike: Friday 1 pm on Zoom (or via discussion)

HW:

Read "Learning and Image" by Rachel Richardson
Read these poems as examples for Exercise 5 (on image)
Exercise 5: draft
Exercise 5: revision (give feedback on 3)
Exercise 6: draft
Exercise 6: revision (give feedback on 3)

Week 4

Watch Week 4 overview video
Open Mike: Friday 1 pm on Zoom (or via discussion)
Video lecture on various poetic devices and forms

HW:

Scansion Practice 1
Read these sestinas as examples for Exercise 7
Exercise 7: draft
Exercise 7: revision (give feedback on 3)
Exercise 8: draft
Exercise 8: revision (give feedback on 3)

## Week 5

Watch Week 5 overview video
Open Mike: Friday 1 pm on Zoom (or via discussion)
Lines, Line Breaks, and Stanzas

HW:

Read these poems as examples of list poems for Exercise 9
Exercise 9: draft
Exercise 9: revision (give feedback on 3)
Exercise 10: draft
Exercise 10: revision (give feedback on 3)

## Week 6

Watch Week 6 overview video
Open Mike: Friday 1 pm on Zoom (or via discussion)
Sign-up for recitations

HW:

Review guidelines on giving feedback
Workshop poem: Draft
Exercise 11: draft
Exercise 11: revision (give feedback on 3)

## Week 7

Watch Week 7 overview video
Sign-ups for recitations
Open Mike: Friday 1 pm on Zoom (or via discussion)


HW:

Workshop poem: revision



## Week 8

Watch Week 8 overview video
Open Mike: Friday 1 pm on Zoom (or via discussion)
First round of recitations: 1-7

HW:

Read "What Constitutes Political Poetry?" by Christopher Soto
Read model poems for political poem
Exercise 12: draft
Exercise 12: revision (give feedback on 3)
Exercise 13: draft
Exercise 13: revision (give feedback on 3)

Week 9

Watch Week 9 overview video
Open Mike: Friday 1 pm on Zoom (or via discussion)
Second round of recitations: 8-14

HW:

Make-up poem 1: draft
Make-up poem 1: revision
Make-up poem 2: draft
Make-up poem 2: revision

Week 10

Watch Week 9 overview video
Open Mike: Friday 1 pm on Zoom (or via discussion)
Third round of recitations: 15-21

HW:

Workshop poem 2: Draft

Week 11

Watch Week 9 overview video
Open Mike: Friday 1 pm on Zoom (or via discussion)
Fourth round of recitations: 21-28

HW:

Workshop poem: revision

Week 12

Watch Week 9 overview video
Open Mike: Friday 1 pm on Zoom (or via discussion)
Any make-up recitations

HW:

Read how to write a ghazal
Read these models of ghazals
Exercise 14: draft
Exercise 14: revision (give feedback on 3)

Exercise 15: draft
Exercise 15: revision (give feedback on 3)

Week 13

Watch Week 13 overview video
Open Mike: Friday 1 pm on Zoom (or via discussion)
Pick an untranslatable word

HW:

Exercise 16: draft
Exercise 16: revision (give feedback on 3)
Exercise 17: draft
Exercise 17: revision (give feedback on 3)

Week 14

Watch Week 14 overview video
Open Mike: Friday 1 pm on Zoom (or via discussion)

HW:

Select your three polished pieces
Read model cover letters
Read directions and write your cover letter

Week 15

Watch Week 15 overview video
Open Mike: Friday 1 pm on Zoom (or via discussion)

HW:

Read and comment on everyone's cover letters and poems for final

Week 16

Final