

Course Outline for: ENGL 1186 Introduction to Poetry**A. Course Description:**

1. Number of credits: 3
2. Lecture hours per week: 3
3. Prerequisites: ENGC 0960 (C/P or higher); or
EAP 1100 (C or higher); or
Placement into College-Level Reading; and
Placement into ENGC 1101
4. Corequisites: None
5. MnTC Goals: Goal #6 – Humanities and the Fine Arts

Poetry is a verbal art form universally understood to be one of a culture's highest forms of expression, truth, and questioning. Students explore the way poets use words in concentrated form to convey sensory, emotional, imaginative, and intellectual experience. Students practice close and full reading of a variety of poems, noting imagery, figurative language, sound, and tone.

B. Date last reviewed/updated: May 2025**C. Outline of Major Content Areas:**

1. Elements of Poetry
2. Subject Matter of Poetry
3. Lives and Contributions of Selected Poets
4. Historical Aspects and Developments
5. Critical Commentary on Poetry

D. Course Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of the course, the student will be able to:

1. Analyze unique literary aesthetics of the poetic forms and their effects in a variety of poetry. (Goal 2b, 2d, 6a, 6c, 6e)
2. Analyze the key elements of poetry (e.g., rhythm, rhyme, word choice, concrete and abstract language, denotation, connotation, figurative language, tone, persona, and poetic forms). (Goal 6c, 6e)
3. Evaluate poetry in historical and cultural contexts, from the early forms to contemporary authors, including those from under-represented populations and a variety of cultures. (Goals 2a, 2b, 2c, 2d, 6a, 6b, 6c, 6e)
4. Analyze poems, supporting interpretations with specific evidence from the poems. (Goals 2a, 2b, 2c, 2d, 6a, 6c, 6e)
5. Illustrate the ways in which poetry helps readers to understand ourselves, other people, and the world. (Goals 6b, 6c)
6. Interpret poetry using a variety of scholarship, perspectives, and critical frameworks. (Goals 2b, 2c, 2d, 6a, 6c, 6e)

7. Develop reflective and analytical responses to poetry. (Goals 6c, 6e)

E. Methods for Assessing Student Learning:

Methods for assessment may include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Tests/quizzes
2. Analytical essays
3. Journals
4. Collaborative Projects

F. Special Information:

None