

**English 3343-115, 60028
Creative Writing- Poetry**

Fall 2023

Texas A&M University-Central Texas

COURSE DATES, MODALITY, AND LOCATION

This class meets on Tuesday nights from 6:00-9:00pm in Founders Hall Room 212.

INSTRUCTOR AND CONTACT INFORMATION

Instructor: Heather Chandler

Office Hours: Regularly available through email or by appointment on Zoom.

Email: h.chandler@tamuct.edu

Student-instructor interaction

I regularly check email throughout the weekday (Monday through Friday) until around 5:00pm. Emails are responded to within 24 hours.

Emergency Warning System for Texas A&M University-Central Texas

SAFEZONE. SafeZone provides a public safety application that gives you the ability to call for help with the push of a button. It also provides Texas A&M University-Central Texas the ability to communicate emergency information quickly via push notifications, email, and text messages. All students automatically receive email and text messages via their myCT accounts.

Downloading SafeZone allows access to push notifications and enables you to connect directly for help through the app.

You can download SafeZone from the app store and use your myCT credentials to log in. If you would like more information, you can visit the [SafeZone](http://www.safezoneapp.com) website [www.safezoneapp.com].

To register SafeZone on your phone, please follow these 3 easy steps:

1. Download the SafeZone App from your phone store using the link below:
 - o [iPhone/iPad](https://apps.apple.com/app/safezone/id533054756): [https://apps.apple.com/app/safezone/id533054756]
 - o [Android Phone / Tablet](https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.criticalarc.safezoneapp)
[https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.criticalarc.safezoneapp]
2. Launch the app and enter your myCT email address (e.g. {name}@tamuct.edu)
3. Complete your profile and accept the terms of service

For updates on COVID information, please monitor the University [website](https://www.tamuct.edu/covid19/)
[<https://www.tamuct.edu/covid19/>]

COURSE INFORMATION

Course Overview and description

Focuses on the craft and art of creative expression within one genre or a set of related genres. Attention to the conception, design, and execution of the whole work and of elements of figurative language, characterization, dialogue, point of view, and poetic structure, as well as other elements of the craft. Prerequisite(s): ENGL 1301.

Course Objective or Goal

The purpose of the course is to make you a better writer of poetry and get to you excited about the creative process. Our course will explore poetry forms, styles, and great poets, while we practice of writing our own poetry. This course asks students to both analyze and critique both published writers and the work of their peers. Students will also be asked to produce their own original mini-chapbook, consisting of five original poems. Course work will include regular reading assignments of poetry and about poetry. Our online class will consist of weekly readings and discussions, writing exercises, and critique/workshop sessions.

Student Learning Outcomes

- Recognize the special genre of poetry by reading and discussing the work of published poets.
- Understand poetic forms and styles and the literary language of discussing poetry.
- Practice skills in critical reading and writing.
- Review publication conventions and apply standards of professional submission preparation.
- Practice critical approaches and exercise sensibilities through interactions with peers in the workshop process.

Creative works often cover vulnerable and controversial subjects. Students should be able to tolerate innovation, viewpoints different from their own, as well as creative and cultural diversity in the arts.

Required Reading and Textbook(s)

The Oxford Book of American Poetry by David Lehman, 2006.

The Triggering Town: Lectures and Essays on Poetry and Writing by Richard Hugo, 1979.

This course makes use of several other texts, essays, and poems. Links to these sources will be available on a weekly basis through Canvas or provided by the instructor.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Course Requirements:

Regular Reading Assignments:

The readings in this course lay the foundation for all the discussions and work we will do. Therefore, these readings are essential to your success in the course. Please be sure that you have carefully read the required assignments before class and be ready to engage in conversation and debate on the topics, themes, and issues addressed in the readings.

Class Lectures:

Class lectures, readings, videos, and discussions are the primary method of instruction and learning in this course. In addition to discussing and debating the issues and themes of our weekly reading assignments, we will be constantly engaging with a variety of poetry, chapters, and essays. I'm interested in an organic learning environment that naturally reflects and engages the interest of the class and will often introduce topics and writings related to our current discussions. To provide space and accountability of our readings in an online class, we will use the discussion board and reflection papers.

Participation in Class Discussions, Writing Exercises, and Workshops (Total 35 points):

Students are expected to participate online often during the week and engage regularly and often in class discussion and workshops. We will have assignments you will complete and turn in to the instructor, and others you will share with the class, both written exercises and reading assignments. Your engagement with the course material benefits the entire class, and you will be graded on your thoughtfulness and your level of engagement with these materials and your classmates. Students who engage often on the discussion board with meaningful responses and attempts at the exercises will score well in this area.

Critique and Imitative Sample (15 points):

Our first major assignment asks you to examine a writer who inspires your own work. You will offer a critique of their most recent work, examining their persona, style, process, and influence. You will also produce and share your own imitative piece written in response or in the style of your chosen author. You will share this with the class in the appropriate discussion forum.

Written Critiques/Peer Review of Poems (20 points):

Our second half of the semester will focus on writing workshops, where students will both write their own original work and provide written and verbal critiques on every short story submitted to the group. These written comments will be graded on the level of engagement and thoughtfulness of the critiques based on the formal and thematic aspects of the stories offered by each student.

Final Portfolio (30 points):

Our final project for the class will be due at the end of the semester, where each student will submit a mini chapbook of five poems ready for submission, a cover letter for publication, and a 1000-word essay that clarifies and describes how their writing process, voice, style, form, and subject matter has evolved over the semester.

Grading Criteria Rubric and Conversion

Final grades will be calculated using the following percentages:

Participation in Class Discussions, Writing Exercises, and Workshops = 35%

Critiques and Imitative Writing Sample = 15%

Written Critiques/Peer Review of Poetry = 20%

Final Portfolio and Essay = 30%

Posting of Grades

All assignments are generally graded within one week of submission. Grades will be posted in Canvas.

Grading Policies

Neither late work nor make up work will exist in this class. Assignments that fail to be submitted by the deadline will not be permitted (unless you have specific approval from me for unexpected and uncontrollable extenuating circumstances that occur before the due date). Likewise, I do not assign extra credit; therefore, students should focus on providing their best work on assignments throughout the semester.

COURSE OUTLINE AND CALENDAR

Complete Course Calendar

Week 1 (8/29): Introduction to course; discussion of syllabus and texts; individual introductions; Introduction to Form.

Week 2 (9/5): The History and the Role of Poetry, Poetry Form: Villanelle

Week 3 (9/12): Villanelle Experiment due. Form: Sestina. Imitation poem and essay assigned.

Week 4 (9/19): Sestina Experiment Due. Form: Sonnet.

Week 5 (9/26): Sonnet Experiment Due. Imitation Poems due next week.

Week 6 (10/3): Imitation Poems and Presentations Due.

Week 7 (10/10): Narrative Poetry and the Act of Persona.

Week 8 (10/17): Poetry, Politics, and Performance. Form: The Ballad

Week 9 (10/24): Form: Open Forms

Week 10 (10/31): ONLINE CLASS

Week 11 (11/7): WORKSHOP 1

Week 12 (11/14): ONLINE WORKSHOP 2

Week 13 (11/21): WORKSHOP 3

Week 14 (11/28): WORKSHOP 4, Cover Letters and Publication Markets

Week 15 (12/5):; Final Portfolio and Reflection Essay due.

Week 16 (12/12): Course Evaluations

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS AND SUPPORT

Technology Requirements

This course will use the A&M-Central Texas Instructure Canvas learning management system. We strongly recommend the latest versions of Chrome, Firefox, Edge, or Safari browsers. Canvas will run on Windows, Mac, Linus, iOS, android, or any other device with a modern web browser. **Canvas no longer supports any version of Internet Explorer.**

Logon to A&M-Central Texas Canvas [<https://tamuct.instructure.com/>] or access Canvas through the TAMUCT Online link in myCT [<https://tamuct.onecampus.com/>] by clicking on the "TAMUCT Online Canvas" tile. You will then log in through our Microsoft portal.

Username: Your MyCT email address. Password: Your MyCT password

Canvas Support

Use the Canvas Help tab, located at the bottom of the left-hand menu, for issues with Canvas. You can search the support articles or use the Email, Call, or Chat buttons at the bottom of the support pop-up to contact the Canvas Help Desk.

For issues related to course content and requirements, contact your instructor.

Online Proctored Testing

A&M-Central Texas uses Proctorio for online identity verification and proctored testing. This service is provided at no direct cost to students. If the course requires identity verification or proctored testing, the technology requirements are: Any computer meeting the minimum computing requirements, plus web camera, speaker, and microphone (or headset). Proctorio requires use of the Chrome web browser with their custom plug in installed.

Other Technology Support

For log-in problems, students should contact Help Desk Central, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week

Email: helpdesk@tamu.edu

Phone: (254) 519-5466

[Web Chat](http://hdc.tamu.edu): [<http://hdc.tamu.edu>]

Please let the support technician know you are an A&M-Central Texas student.

UNIVERSITY RESOURCES, PROCEDURES, AND GUIDELINES

Academic Accommodations

At Texas A&M University-Central Texas, we value an inclusive learning environment where every student has an equal chance to succeed and has the right to a barrier-free education. The Warrior Center for Student Success, Equity and Inclusion is responsible for ensuring that students with a disability receive equal access to the university's programs, services and activities. If you believe you have a disability requiring reasonable accommodations, please contact the Office of Access and Inclusion, WH-212; or call (254) 501-5836. Any information you provide is private and confidential and will be treated as such.

For more information, please visit our [Access & Inclusion](#) Canvas page (log-in required) [<https://tamuct.instructure.com/courses/717>]

Academic Integrity

Texas A&M University-Central Texas values the integrity of the academic enterprise and strives for the highest standards of academic conduct. A&M-Central Texas expects its students, faculty, and staff to support the adherence to high standards of personal and scholarly conduct to preserve the honor and integrity of the creative community. Any deviation by students from this expectation may result in a failing grade for the assignment and potentially a failing grade for the course. All academic misconduct concerns will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct. When in doubt on collaboration, citation, or any issue, please contact your instructor before taking a course of action.

For more [information regarding the student conduct process](#), [<https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/student-conduct.html>].

If you know of potential honor violations by other students, you may [submit a referral](#), [<https://cm.maxient.com/reporting.php?TAMUCentralTexas>].

Drop Policy

If you discover that you need to drop this class, you must complete the [Drop Request](#) Dynamic Form through Warrior Web.

[<https://federation.ngwebsolutions.com/sp/startSSO.ping?PartnerIdpld=https://eis-prod.ec.tamuct.edu:443/samlSso&SpSessionAuthnAdapterId=tamuctDF&TargetResource=https%3a%2f%2fdynamicforms.ngwebsolutions.com%2fSubmit%2fStart%2f53b8369e-0502-4f36-be43-f02a4202f612>].

Faculty cannot drop students; this is always the responsibility of the student. The Records and Admissions Office will provide a deadline on the Academic Calendar for which the form must be completed. Once you submit the completed form to the Records and Admissions Office, you must go into Warrior Web and confirm that you are no longer enrolled. If you still show as enrolled, FOLLOW-UP with the Records and Admissions Office immediately. You are to attend class until the procedure is complete to avoid penalty for absence. Should you miss the drop deadline or fail to follow the procedure, you will receive an F in the course, which may affect your financial aid and/or VA educational benefits.

Pregnant and/or Parenting Students Rights and Accommodations

A&M-Central Texas supports students who are pregnant, experiencing pregnancy-related conditions, and/or parenting. In accordance with requirements of [Title IX and related guidance from US Department of Education's Office of Civil Rights](#), the Associate Dean in the Division of Student Affairs, (254) 501-5909, can assist students who are pregnant, experiencing pregnancy-related conditions, and/or parenting by provide flexible and individualized reasonable accommodations. Students should seek out assistance as early in the pregnancy as possible through the [Pregnancy & Parenting webpage](#) [<https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/pregnant-and-parenting-students.html>]. For more information, please visit [Student Affairs](#) [<https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/pregnant-and-parenting-students.html>]. If you would like to read more about these [requirements and guidelines](#) online, please visit the website [<http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/pregnancy.pdf>].

[Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972](#) specifically prohibits discrimination against a student based on pregnancy, childbirth, false pregnancy, termination of pregnancy, or recovery from any of these conditions

[<https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/pregnancy.html>].

Students experiencing any form of discrimination due to any of these conditions are encouraged to reach out to the Title IX Coordinator, 254.519.5716, titleix@tamuct.edu, Founders Hall 317B, or the Associate Dean of Student Affairs, 254.501.5909, Warrior Hall 105.

Title IX Rights and Reporting Responsibilities

A&M-Central Texas is committed to creating a safe and open learning environment for all students. If you or another student has experienced any form of gender discrimination or sexual misconduct, including sexual harassment, sexual assault, dating/domestic violence, and/or sex-based stalking, help and support are available. Our university strongly encourages all members of our campus community to report incidents and seek support for gender

discrimination and sexual misconduct through the Title IX Office. You may contact the Title IX Office at 254.519.5716, titleix@tamuct.edu, Founders Hall 317B, or learn more by visiting the [Title IX webpage](https://www.tamuct.edu/compliance/titleix.html) [https://www.tamuct.edu/compliance/titleix.html].

Please be aware that that under [Title IX](#), [Texas Senate Bill 212](#), and [System Regulation 08.01.01](#), [https://policies.tamus.edu/08-01-01.pdf] all university employees are mandated reporters and are required to disclose information about suspected or alleged violations as listed above and defined in System Regulation 08.01.01. If the Title IX Office receives information about an incident, they will reach out to offer information about resources, rights, and procedural options as a member of the campus community. Although I have an obligation to report, you will, in most cases, control how your case will be handled. When working with the Title IX Office you will have access to resources and accommodations but also have the opportunity to express if you wish to move forward with an investigation. Our goal is to make sure you are aware of the options available to you as a student. Community members are not required to respond to this outreach.

If you or another student wishes to speak to a confidential employee who does not have this reporting responsibility, you can contact the [Student Wellness & Counseling Center](#), [https://www.tamuct.edu/student-affairs/student-counseling.html], 254.501.5955, or swacc@tamuct.edu, located in Warrior Hall Room 207L or the Student Support Advocate, 254.501.5978 or ssa@tamuct.edu, located in founder Hall Room 317D.

Tutoring and Success Coaching

Tutoring and success coaching services are available to all A&M-Central Texas students, both virtually and in-person.

To schedule tutoring sessions or view tutor availability, please contact Warriorcenter@tamuct.edu or visit Warrior Hall, 111.

If you have questions about these or other academic support services or are interested in becoming a tutor, please contact the Warrior Center for Student Success, Equity and Inclusion at (254) 501-5836, email us at WarriorCenter@tamuct.edu. You are welcome to visit the Warrior Center at Warrior Hall, suite 212.

Chat live with a remote tutor 24/7 for almost any subject from on your computer! Tutor.com is an online tutoring platform that enables A&M-Central Texas students to log in and receive online tutoring support at no additional cost. This tool provides tutoring in over 40 subject areas except writing support. Access Tutor.com through Canvas.

University Library & Archives

The University Library & Archives provides many services in support of research across campus and at a distance. We offer over 350 electronic databases containing approximately 631,525 eBooks and 75,149 journals, in addition to the 97,443 items in our print collection, which can be mailed to students who live more than 50 miles from campus. Research guides for each subject taught at A&M-Central Texas are available through our website to help students navigate these resources. On campus, the library offers technology including cameras, laptops, microphones, webcams, and digital sound recorders.

Research assistance from a librarian is also available 24 hours a day through our online chat service, and at the reference desk when the library is open. Research sessions can be scheduled for more comprehensive assistance, and may take place virtually through WebEx, Microsoft Teams or in-person at the library. [Schedule an appointment here](https://tamuct.libcal.com/appointments) [https://tamuct.libcal.com/appointments]. Assistance may cover many topics, including how to find articles in peer-reviewed journals, how to cite resources, and how to piece together research for written assignments.

Our 27,000-square-foot facility on the A&M-Central Texas main campus includes student lounges, private study rooms, group workspaces, computer labs, family areas suitable for all ages, and many other features. Services such as interlibrary loan, TexShare, binding, and laminating are available. The library frequently offers workshops, tours, readings, and other events. For more information, please visit our [Library website](https://tamuct.libguides.com/index) [https://tamuct.libguides.com/index]

University Writing Center

University Writing Center: For the summer semesters, all University Writing Center (UWC) tutoring services are entirely online. The hours of operation are from 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday with additional hours Monday through Thursday nights from 6:00-9:00 p.m. The UWC is also offering hours from 12:00-3:00 p.m. on Saturdays.

Tutors are prepared to help writers of all levels and abilities at any stage of the writing process. While tutors will not write, edit, or grade papers, they will assist students in developing more effective composing practices. By providing a practice audience for students' ideas and writing, our tutors highlight the ways in which they read and interpret students' texts, offering guidance and support throughout the various stages of the writing process. In addition, students may work independently in the UWC by checking out a laptop that runs the Microsoft Office suite and connects to WIFI, or by consulting our resources on writing, including all of the relevant style guides. Whether you need help brainstorming ideas, organizing an essay, proofreading, understanding proper citation practices, or just want a quiet place to work, the UWC is here to help!

Students may arrange a one-to-one session with a trained and experienced writing tutor by making an appointment via [WOnline](https://tamuct.mywconline.com/) [https://tamuct.mywconline.com/]. In addition, you can email Dr. Bruce Bowles Jr. at bruce.bowles@tamuct.edu if you have any questions about the UWC, need any assistance with scheduling, or would like to schedule a recurring appointment with your favorite tutor.

OTHER POLICY STATEMENTS

A Note about Sexual Violence at A&M-Central Texas

Sexual violence is a serious safety, social justice, and public health issue. The university offers support for anyone struggling with these issues. University faculty are mandated reporters, so if someone discloses that they were sexually assaulted (or a victim of Domestic/Dating Violence

or Stalking) while a student at TAMUCT, faculty members are required to inform the Title IX Office. If you want to discuss any of these issues confidentially, you can do so through Student Wellness and Counseling (254-501-5955) located on the second floor of Warrior Hall (207L).

Sexual violence can occur on our campus because predators often feel emboldened, and victims often feel silenced or shamed. It is incumbent on ALL of us to find ways to actively create environments that tell predators we don't agree with their behaviors and tell survivors we will support them. Your actions matter. Don't be a bystander; be an agent of change. For additional information on campus policy and resources visit the [Title IX webpage](https://www.tamuct.edu/compliance/titleix.html) [<https://www.tamuct.edu/compliance/titleix.html>].

Behavioral Intervention

Texas A&M University-Central Texas cares about the safety, health, and well-being of its students, faculty, staff, and community. If you are aware of individuals for whom you have a concern, please make a referral to the Behavioral Intervention Team. Referring your concern shows you care. You can complete the [referral](https://cm.maxient.com/reporting.php?TAMUCentralTexas) online

[<https://cm.maxient.com/reporting.php?TAMUCentralTexas>].

Anonymous referrals are accepted. Please see the [Behavioral Intervention Team](https://www.tamuct.edu/bit) website for more information [<https://www.tamuct.edu/bit>]. If a person's behavior poses an imminent threat to you or another, contact 911 or A&M-Central Texas University Police at 254-501-5805.