

**Department of English**

**Course Outline**

**Semester: Spring 2025**

**Course Title: Twentieth Century Poetry**

**Course Code: ENG 422**

**Course Teacher:** Rubaiaat –E- Tarik Prithwee, Lecturer, Department of English

**Course Description:**

The English poetry of the 20th century is rich, varied, and challenging. With the help of 19th century innovators such as Emily Dickinson and Walt Whitman, poets freed themselves from the formal constraints of regular meter and rhyme and forced themselves to redefine the genre, a process that continues with each new poet. Throughout this semester, we will develop an extended definition of the poetry of the last century as we read a selection of authors, beginning with the early modernist, W.B. Yeats, and moving on with the poets who wrote into the middle of the last century - T.S. Eliot and W. H. Auden, and ending with the poets who wrote towards the end – Dylan Thomas and Ted Hughes. Along the way, we'll explore the craft of poetry as well as its familiar themes: love, the self, grief, joy, nature, community, sex, death, and all the rest. By the end, I hope we will all be more receptive to the strange and often beautiful music of the 20th century made by its poets.

**Rationale of the Course:**

This course is intended to read and analyze a group of twentieth century poets whose works contribute on a large scale both in terms of creating the modernist poetic movement and critiquing the socio-cultural conditions of twentieth century society.

**Course Objectives:**

* To gain an understanding of the historical background of twentieth century poetry genres.
* To enable the learner to have proper understanding of twentieth century modern poetry themes and characteristics.
* To read and analyze seminal poems of the twentieth century.
* To study the basic features and development of twentieth poetry.

**Course Learning Outcome (CLOs)**

At the end of the course, students will be able to:

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| CLO1 | Identify and explain the characteristics and approaches of twentieth century literature  |
| CLO2 | Produce a critical appreciation of the poems by analyzing context |
| CLO3 | Evaluate poetry of the century critically and creatively in the context of contemporary world |
| CLO4 | Apply the achieved knowledge to the practical life for solving as well as facing various issues like indecision, critical situation, hostile atmosphere, social binaries etc. |

**Mapping Course Learning Outcomes (CLOs) with Teaching-Learning and Assessment Strategies:**

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| **CLOs** | **Teaching Learning Strategy** | **Assessment Strategy** |
| CLO1 | Brainstorming, Lecture, Discussion, Sharing | Assignment, Presentation, Class Test/Quiz |
| CLO2 | Discussion, Reading, Writing, Critiquing  | Presentation, Class Test/Quiz, Written Examination |
| CLO3 | Discussion, Reading, Performing, Critiquing  | Presentation, Class Test/Quiz, Written Examination |
| CLO4 | Brainstorming, Reading, Writing, Performing | Performance/Poster Making/Exhibition |

**Course Contents:**

* W. B. Yeats: “Easter 1916”, “The Second Coming” and “Sailing to Byzantium”
* T. S. Eliot: “The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock”
* W. H. Auden: “The Shield of Achilles”
* Dylan Thomas: “The Force that Through the Green Fuse” and “Do Not Go Gentle into that Good Night”
* Ted Hughes: “Pike”

**Supplementary Readings:**

* Blamires, H. Twentieth-Century English Literature. London: Macmillan, 1991.
* Bowra, Cecil Maurice. The Heritage of Symbolism. Textbook Publishers, 2003.
* Draper, R. P., An Introduction to Twentieth Century Poetry in English. London: Macmillan, 1999.
* Frye, Northrop. Educated Imagination. Anansi, 2002.
* Gardner, Helen. The Art of T. S. Eliot. Faber & Faber, 1980.

**Class Schedule:**

**55th (D) Batch**

Monday 2:30 pm – 4.00pm Room: 1211

Tuesday 4.00 pm – 5.30 pm Room: 1204

**Counseling Hours:**

Monday 11:00 am - 1:00 pm

**Please note** that PLAGIARISM from AI will be strictly handled. If you submit any assignment which is not yours or duly given credit to, you will receive a failing grade.