COURSE NAME: Creative Writing- Poetry

COURSE NUMBER: ENG*282

CREDITS: 3

CATALOG DESCRIPTION:
This course is a study and application in a seminar atmosphere of poetry writing techniques. Intensive study of poetry by the world's great poets and contemporary poets to discover and understand the techniques used will serve as a starting point for individual work by students. The goal of this seminar is to develop the student's ability in elements essential to the craft of poetry, including the use of vibrant imagery, effective line breaks and communicative language choices. Focusing on these basic elements will strengthen the work of both new and experienced poets. In order to build skill in these and other techniques as well as varied approaches to the creative process, students will be asked to make use of the techniques studied in frequent poetry writing assignments. Work produced will be discussed and critically evaluated by the class. When possible, meetings and discussions with established writers will be arranged. No previous experience with creative writing or the study of poetry is required.

This course cannot be used as a Humanities elective

PREREQUISITE: ENG*101 or permission of the instructor

General Education Competencies Satisfied:

HCC General Education Requirement Designated Competency Attribute Code(s):

☒ **AESX**   **Appreciation of the Aesthetic Dimensions of Humankind**

Additional CSCU General Education Requirements for CSCU Transfer Degree Programs:

None

Embedded Competency(ies):

None

Discipline-Specific Attribute Code(s):
☒ **FINA**   **Fine Arts elective**

Course objectives:

General Education Goals and Outcomes:

☒ **Appreciation of the Aesthetic Dimensions of Humankind:** Students will understand the diverse nature, meanings, and functions of creative endeavors through the study and practice of literature, music, the theatrical and visual arts, and related forms of expression.

Course Specific:

1. Write poetry at least weekly, culminating in a significant number of pages of poetry
2. Read, analyze and respond to a significant number of poems by recognized writers
3. Recognize and put into practice the techniques of poetry
4. Develop confidence and competence in reading poetry aloud
5. Study and apply key concepts, terminology, and methodologies of poetry writing techniques in the analysis of recognized works of poetry and the creation of student works of poetry.
6. Develop the ability to analyze and critically evaluate one's own work and the work of peers through engagement in workshop discussions.
7. Study works of poetry as models for student writing, identifying, when appropriate, the significant historical, social, political, cultural and/or aesthetic contexts which shaped them.
8. Articulate ways in which poems can and do respond to and influence society and culture.
9. Actively engage with poetry through the creation of a significant amount of poetic work and, whenever possible, through the experience of poetry readings.
10. Understand the ethical dimensions surrounding the creation, circulation, and interpretation of works of poetry, including plagiarism and other concerns (such as the use of one's own experiences/those of others in the creation of a poem or the use of language or descriptions which may be offensive).
11. Engage in the writing process and peer review in order to develop and revise study work.

COURSE CONTENT

1. Reading and examination of approaches to creative writing and the writing process.
2. Reading and examination of poems written by established writers
3. Participation in writing exercises, both in-class and as homework
4. Frequent poetry writing
5. Workshopping of student work
6. Elements of poetry for deep study and skills development should include:
   a. Imagery
   b. Diction
   c. Line breaks and line integrity
   d. Stanza formation and form
   e. Sound

      f.   Rhythm
      g. Voice
      h. Lyric vs. Narrative

7. Elements of poetry for exposure and possibly more extensive study and skills development might include:
    a. Meter and syllabics
    b. Closed and fixed forms (traditional forms)
    c. Allusion and research
    d. Persona Poetry
8. Approaches to reading aloud, especially one's own work
9. The Writing Process, with an emphasis on Revision
10. OPTIONAL: Portfolio or Poetry Collection Development
11. OPTIONAL: Submission for publication
12. OPTIONAL: A public poetry reading