

**Carleton University
Fall 2014
Department of English**

ENGL 3007A: Reading Poetry

Wednesday and Friday, 10:05 am – 11:25 am

Dr. Collett Tracey Phone: 520-2600 ext. 2328

Office: 1910 Dunton Tower

Office Hours: TBA or by appointment

Email: ctracey@connect.carleton.ca

Preliminary Outline (subject to change)

In this course we will consider the ways in which Canadian poetry has developed since the 19th century. We will become familiar with the various poets and their influences, and will engage with their work by reading it aloud and breaking it down in class.

Some of the authors we will study include: the Confederation writers, Archibald Lampman, Duncan Campbell Scott, Wilfred Campbell, Pauline Johnson, and Bliss Carman, among others. We will then move on to consider the Modernists, including A.M. Klein, Frank Scott, P.K. Page, Dorothy Livesay, Irving Layton, Margaret Avison, Eli Mandel, Louis Dudek, etc. and the ways in which they published and distributed their work. Then we will study such post-Modernist writers as Margaret Atwood, Leonard Cohen, Patrick Lane, Robert Kroetsch, Bronwen Wallace, Michael Ondaatje...

We will also work towards a deeper understanding of how vulnerable and rich our literary heritage is with a view to convincing students of the need to engage with it from a personal as well as academic perspective. This will be facilitated through small group discussions, seminars and debates.

Required Text:

Geddes, Gary. 15 Canadian Poets X 3

COURSE PROCEDURES, GRADES, AND GRADING

First Paper, due last day of class in fall term, 25%

In class discussion & seminars, 25%

Second Paper, due last day of class in winter term, 25%

Discussion & Seminars, 25%

GENERAL EXPECTATIONS, COURSE POLICIES, and CLASSROOM ETIQUETTE:

Students are expected to:

- attend all classes, showing up on time and staying for the duration of the class and bringing with them the text(s) assigned for that day's class. If you miss a class it is the student's responsibility to get the notes you miss from another student.

- have read the assigned material for that day.

- be prepared to discuss the texts in a thoughtful manner. Critical reading, writing and analytical skills cannot be learned from a book alone, and asking questions about the readings and contributing to class discussions will undoubtedly help you to better understand the material, hone your critical reading and interpretative skills, and prepare you well for upper-year classes where participation will account for part of your final grade.

- **(I strongly recommend you familiarize yourself with this policy):** Please ensure that you turn off all cell phones, mp3 players, and other electronic equipment **BEFORE** class begins. It is incredibly disrespectful, distracting and frustrating for professors to watch students send and receive text messages during lectures, and students who are caught using their cell phones will be asked to leave class. Laptop computers are to be used **ONLY** to take lecture notes, and any student who is caught using the computer to play games, go on Facebook, watch videos on youtube, check email, surf the internet, and/or any other activity that is not related to taking notes will be asked to leave the class. If such issues are a common problem, only students with PMC approved laptops will be able to bring them to class. Please show respect to both your professor and fellow students.

- Attendance will be taken at every class and absences will be noted. Students who miss **4 or more classes per term will not be able to pass the course**, as all course requirements must be fulfilled for successful completion of the course.

- The best way to get in contact with me is by email at ctracey@connect.carleton.ca. I will respond to emails in a timely fashion (usually within 48 hours, though it could be longer on weekends) and especially to those that ask clear, precise and specific questions.

- I am also available to meet with students to discuss any aspect of the course during my office hours, and if you are unable to make it to my office hours, we can reschedule a time to meet that is convenient to both of us.

- In the unlikely event that I need to cancel a class due to illness, personal/family emergency, etc., I will do my best to post an announcement as soon as possible to CULearn. It's a good idea to check for such announcements before coming to class, but if you can't check, such announcements will be posted to the classroom door.