English 126
Dr. Rick Tomlinson

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Course Title: ENGL. 115 - Introduction to Poetry
Course Credits: 3-0-3

PREREQUISITE: Eligibility for English 101 or completion of English 115

COURSE DESCRIPTION:
English 126, Introduction to Poetry, is an introductory course in the reading, discussion, and written analysis and understanding of poetry through the study of techniques, themes, and some major poets of the English and American traditions. It provides three semester hours of credit.

REQUIRED MATERIALS:
Texts:

COURSE OBJECTIVES:
1. To read and to comprehend poetry;
2. To contribute to oral discussion about poetry;
3. To write an insightful literary analysis;
4. To understand the primary elements of poetry;
5. To develop an introductory comprehension of critical methods.

ATTENDANCE and ADMINISTRATIVE DROP POLICIES:
Diction, logic, mechanics, organization, and sophistication of thinking will be considered when evaluating your work. Following the college policy as outlined in the RCC Community College Catalog: “Regular attendance is necessary for satisfactory college work. Richland faculty will take attendance at each class meeting. If a student is absent for one week plus one day (or less, if specified by the instructor in the course outline), his/her name may be sent to the Admission and Records Office. Students with unsatisfactory attendance will be sent a “stopped attending” letter.
At midterm the college will administratively drop any student who has failed to meet the attendance standard as certified by the instructor.

A student who fails to attend the first two classes of a course may also be dropped from the class. The college may drop any student who has unsatisfactory attendance as stated in the course syllabus during the period from the midterm through the last regular week of classes before finals. Faculty certification is required for such action.

Also, a student may be dropped by an instructor for unsatisfactory course progress.

Students are **not** to assume they will be automatically dropped and must follow appropriate procedures for withdrawing from a course.

Students who stop attending a class without officially dropping a class or who are not administratively dropped may receive a grade of “F” for the course.”

You must call me about **any** absence within 24 hours of that absence. However, this will **not necessarily** assure that the absence will not count against you. You are responsible for all missed information on any day that you are absent (lecture information, assignments, etc.).

**GRADING POLICY:**

Based on the policies articulated in the paragraphs immediately preceding, satisfactory performance in this course requires that a portion of your grade reflect attendance and participation. You will be expected to attend all of every class period. Class discussion and writing workshops cannot be duplicated or “made up.”

Consider yourself to be a member of this class, which means that you not only have privileges and receive benefits, but you also have responsibilities — both to yourself and to your fellow class members. The grade you earn will be based on an average developed as indicated below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignments/Examinations:</th>
<th>Percent of Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Class Participation</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mid-Term Exam</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Examination</td>
<td>45%</td>
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**The grading scale for English 126 is as follows:**

- 90%+ = A
- 80-89% = B
- 70-79% = C
- 60-69% = D
- 59% and below = F

**OPEN LAB:**

Although significant class time will be devoted to the actual writing and revision of your essays, you will also need to spend additional hours outside of class writing. Much work can be done at home in the inventing and planning stages, and additional hours on the computer are available in the Open Lab in C239.
**INSTRUCTOR ABSENCE:** If I should somehow be delayed, which is highly unlikely, for more than twenty minutes after the scheduled starting time of the class, you may consider that class to be cancelled.

**HUMAN RELATIONS:** This course incorporates concepts regarding all races, creeds, sexes, and ethnic groupings and the belief that they must learn to live together.

**STUDENT SUCCESS:** If at any time I believe that a student is at risk of being unsuccessful in the course, I may notify the Student Success Office. This office will, in turn, contact you suggesting assistance options. I anticipate that you will need to spend at least 3 hours of study outside of class for every hour of in-class work.

**RCC ACADEMIC SUPPORT:**
- Learning Resource Center  Ext. 296
- Perkins Support  Ext. 202
- Student Services Center  Ext. 267
- Student Learning Center  Ext. 419
- Student Support Services  Ext. 440
- Learning Accommodation Services  Ext. 379

**SPECIAL NEEDS:**
Reasonable accommodations are available for students who have a documented disability. Please notify your instructors during the first week of class of any accommodations needed for particular courses. Prompt notification is necessary to ensure that requested accommodations are available when needed. All accommodations must be approved, in advance, through the Accommodations Services Coordinator in C130, at 362.

**INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS:**
Instructional methods may include lecture, discussion, peer evaluation, and group work.

**ACADEMIC DISHONESTY:**
The response to student cheating or plagiarism will follow the college policy as stated in the Richland Community College Catalogue: “Each student is expected to be honest in his/her class work or in the submission of information to the college. Richland regards dishonest in classroom and laboratories, on assignments and examinations, and the submission of false and misleading information to the college as a serious offense. A student who cheats, plagiarizes, or furnishes false, misleading information to the College is subject to disciplinary action up to and including failure of a class or suspension/expulsion from the College.” Expect no mercy!

**IAI INFORMATION:**
The IAI designation for English 126 is H3 903, EGL 915. This course is part of the Illinois Articulation Initiative (IAI). Consequently, successful completion of English 126 (with a grade of C or better) will ensure transferability of the course, and the course will
count toward an associate or bachelor degree program at any other participating school in
the college or university in the State of Illinois.

**CALENDAR:**
All dates, assignments, quizzes, and tests are subject to change: you are responsible
for keeping up with changes. Additional readings and exercises will be assigned as
needed (for students individually or to the class as a whole). Unannounced quizzes or
examinations may be given on any assignments or discussions.

(WK. #1) 21 Aug.
Introduction to course. What is poetry, and why read it? “Reading a Poem,” *Introduction* 5-20. Group
explication and presentation

(WK. #2) 28 Aug.
“Listening to a Voice.” Group explication and presentation

(WK. #3) 4 Sep.
“Words.” Group explication and presentation

(WK. #4) 11 Sep.
“Saying and Suggesting.” Group explication and presentation

(WK. #5) 18 Sep.
“Imagery.” Group explication and presentation

(WK. #6) 25 Sep.
“Figures of Speech.” Group explication and presentation

(WK. #7) 2 Oct.
“Song.” Group explication and presentation

(WK. #8) 9 Oct.
“Sound.” Group explication and presentation

**MIDTERM EXAMINATION**

(WK. #9) 16 Oct.
“Rhythm.” Group explication and presentation

(WK. #10) 23 Oct.
“Closed Form.” Group explication and presentation

(WK. #11) 30 Oct.
“Open Form,” Group explication and presentation.

(WK. #12) 6 Nov.
“Symbol.” Group explication and presentation
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>WK. #</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
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<tr>
<td>#13</td>
<td>13 Nov.</td>
<td>“Myth as narrative.” Group explication and presentation</td>
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<tr>
<td>#14</td>
<td>20 Nov.</td>
<td>“Poetry and Personal Identity.” Group explication and presentation</td>
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<td>#15</td>
<td>27 Nov.</td>
<td>“Recognizing Excellence.” Group explication and presentation</td>
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<td>#16</td>
<td>4 Dec.</td>
<td>Course review</td>
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<tr>
<td>#17</td>
<td>11 Dec.</td>
<td>Final Exam</td>
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