

ENGL 3852 Topics in Poetics: *after Objectivism*

Winter Quarter, 2016

CRN 4397

F 8:00 – 11:50

SH 311

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SH 387-E

Description:

This course concerns selected works by William Carlos Williams, Lorine Niedecker, George Oppen, William Bronk, Susan Howe, Rachel Blau DuPlessis, Fred Moten, and Lucy Ives, which we will study within and against the so-called Objectivist tradition from readerly and writerly perspectives, following their paths into artistic, cultural, and philosophical / theoretical / political contexts.

Books:

William Bronk. *Life Supports: New and Collected Poems*. Jersey City: Talisman, 1997.

Rachel Blau DuPlessis. *Surge: Drafts 96-114*. Cromer, UK: Salt, 2013.

Dana Gioia, ed. *Twentieth-Century American Poetics*. Boston: McGraw Hill, 2004.

Susan Howe. *Spontaneous Particulars: The Telepathy of Archives*. New York: New Directions, 2014.

Lucy Ives. *Orange Roses*. Boise: Ahsakta Press, 2013.

Fred Moten. *The Little Edges*. Middleton: Wesleyan University Press, 2014.

Lorine Niedecker. *Collected Works*. Berkeley: University of California, 2002.

George Oppen. *New Collected Poems*. New York: New Directions, 2008.

William Carlos Williams. *Paterson*. New York: New Directions, 1992.

Invitations:

Four Écrits @ 50%

One Presentation @ 10%

One Research Project @ 40%

Note on attendance: For each unexcused absence, your grade in the course will be diminished by -0.5.

Note on assignments: Unless otherwise specified, all assignments are due at the beginning of class, as noted on the calendar, in hard copy form: typed, double-spaced, 12-point Times New Roman font, citations included (either Chicago or MLA format) and pages stapled. Works that do not conform to these guidelines will be considered late. Late submissions will receive a deduction of -0.5 per day.

Notes on grading:

1. *The Check System*. I'll be grading your Écrits with a check system that will follow these guidelines. A check plus on all your Écrits will translate into a grade of 4.0 / A for that percentage of your overall grade in the course. Each check will reduce your grade for that component of your overall grade in the course by -0.5. Each check minus, by -1.0; each missing Écrit, by -2.0. If you ever receive less than a check plus, you will have the option to revise and resubmit the Écrit for a higher grade. Those revisions (attached to the first draft) will be due by the beginning of the next class meeting.
2. *The Point & Letter System*. I'll be grading your presentation and research project with a point & letter system corresponding to this scale: A (4.0-3.9); A- (3.8-3.5); B+ (3.4-3.2); B (3.1-2.9); B- (2.8-2.5); C+ (2.4-2.2); C (2.1-1.9); C- (1.8-1.5); D+ (1.4-1.2); D (1.1-0.9); D- (0.8-0.5); F (0.4-0).

Calendar (subject to changes):

Week One: 1/8	<i>After Objectivism: Introduction / Williams & Howe</i>
Week Two: 1/15	Howe & Williams & Niedecker Gioia and other works: selections
Week Three: 1/19 1/22	Niedecker & Oppen & DuPlessis Écrit #1 Due Gioia and other works: selections
Week Four: 1/29	Oppen & DuPlessis & Ives Gioia and other works: selections
Week Five: 2/2 2/5	Niedecker & Howe & Bronk Écrit #2 Due Gioia and other works: selections
Week Six: 2/12	Bronk & Oppen & Moten Research Project Proposals Due Gioia and other works: selections
Week Seven: 2/19	Moten & Ives & Williams Écrit #3 Due Gioia and other works: selections
Week Eight: 2/26	Ives & Moten & DuPlessis Gioia and other works: selections
Week Nine: 3/4	Bronk & Howe & Williams Écrit #4 Due Gioia and other works: selections
Week Ten: 3/11	No meeting / Winter Quarter exams 3/10-13