

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

Écrit #1: *After Images & Objects*

Works:

Dana Gioia, ed. *Twentieth-Century American Poetics*. Boston: McGraw Hill, 2004:
Amy Lowell: “Preface to *Some Imagist Poets*”
W. C. Williams: “A New Measure” and “The Poem as a Field of Action”
Ezra Pound: “A Retrospect” and “How to Read”
T.S. Eliot: “Reflections on *Vers Libre*” and “Tradition and the Individual Talent”
Louis Zukofsky: “An Objective”
Denise Levertov: “Some Notes on Organic Form”
Lyn Hejinian: “The Rejection of Closure”
Alice Fulton: “Of Formal, Free, and Fractal Verse”
Roland Greene, ed. *The Princeton Encyclopedia of Poetry and Poetics*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2012, via DU Library: <http://library.du.edu/index.html>
Susan Howe. *Spontaneous Particulars: The Telepathy of Archives*. New York: New Directions, 2014.
Lorine Niedecker. *Collected Works*. Berkeley: University of California, 2002, pp. 1–121.
William Carlos Williams. *Paterson*. New York: New Directions, 1992, books 1-3.

Questions / Topics:

- Discuss the significance of interpersonal and/or intertextual relationships in *Spontaneous Particulars*, *Paterson* (Books 1-3), and Niedecker’s *Collected Works*.
- How and why do archives play significant roles for these poets? What sorts of secrets do Howe, Williams, and Niedecker seek? How and why do they cover and recover hidden information?
- Discuss the significance of sound forms (and silences) in *Spontaneous Particulars*, *Paterson* (Books 1-3), and Niedecker’s *Collected Works*.
- Observe relationships between word and world, page and polis, etc.
- Invent your own question / topic / form.

Write your Écrit in reply to one of these prompts. Provide evidence (i.e. direct quotation) from: at least three of the above selections in *Twentieth-Century American Poetics*; at least two entries in *The Princeton Encyclopedia of Poetry and Poetics*; and, last but not least, *Spontaneous Particulars*, *Paterson*, and Niedecker’s *Collected Works*, pp. 1–121.

Length: 5-7 pages.

Due: Tuesday, January 19