

**ENGL 3852 Topics in Poetics**  
**'After' Objectivism**  
Spring Quarter, 2017

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**Écrit #2: *Dialogues, Forms, Sequences: of poetics and praxis***

**Works:**

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

- Amy Lowell: "Preface to *Some Imagist Poets*"
- Gertrude Stein: "Composition as Explanation"
- W. C. Williams: "A New Measure" and "The Poem as a Field of Action"
- Ezra Pound: "A Retrospect" and "How to Read"
- Marianne Moore: "Idiosyncrasy and Technique"
- T.S. Eliot: "Reflections on *Vers Libre*" and "Tradition and the Individual Talent"
- Langston Hughes: "The Negro Artist and the Racial Mountain"
- Louis Zukofsky: "An Objective"
- Charles Olson: "Projective Verse"
- Robert Hayden: "Introduction to *Kaleidoscope*"
- Muriel Rukeyser: "The Life of Poetry"
- Gwendolyn Brooks: "The New Black"
- Denise Levertov: "Some Notes on Organic Form"
- Lyn Hejinian: "The Rejection of Closure"
- Julia Alvarez: "So Much Depends"
- Alice Fulton: "Of Formal, Free, and Fractal Verse"

*The New Princeton Encyclopedia of Poetry and Poetics*: <http://libguides.du.edu/az.php>

*The Oxford English Dictionary*: <http://libguides.du.edu/az.php>

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

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

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

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

**Invitations / Topics:**

- Follow dialogues (among texts & contexts, words & images, poets & places, lyrical & discursive forms, etc.) in the poetry and poetics of Niedecker, Oppen, DuPlessis, and Bronk.
- Consider the significance of forms and sequences in the poetry and poetics of Niedecker, Oppen, DuPlessis, and Bronk.
- Address relationships between poetry and praxis in the works of Niedecker, Oppen, DuPlessis, and Bronk.
- Invent your own question/topic & etc.

**Guidelines:**

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*; at least one definition from *The Oxford English Dictionary*; and, last but not least, selections from the poetry and prose works of Lorine Niedecker, George Oppen, Rachel Blau DuPlessis, and William Bronk, which should receive primary emphasis. Include a Works Cited page (either Chicago or MLA format) for all sources.

**Length:** 5-7 pages.

**Format:** hard copy, double-spaced, 12-point Times New Roman font, pages stapled.

**Due:** Thursday, April 27