

**ENGL 3852 Topics in Poetics: *after Objectivism***  
Spring Quarter, 2015  
CRN 3244  
T & Th 10:00 – 11:50  
KRH 409

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SH 387-E

**Écrit #1: *Archives, Secrets, 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." Louis Zukofsky: "An Objective." Denise Levertov: "Some Notes on Organic Form." Lyn Hejinian: "The Rejection of Closure."  
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.  
William Carlos Williams. *Paterson*. Ed. Christopher MacGowan. New York: New Directions, 1992.

**Questions:**

- Discuss the significance of interpersonal and/or intertextual relationships in *Spontaneous Particulars* and *Paterson*.
- How and why do archives play significant roles in *Spontaneous Particulars* and *Paterson*? What sorts of secrets do Howe and Williams seek? How and why do they search for and remediate hidden information in these two works?
- Discuss the significance of change in *Spontaneous Particulars* and *Paterson* (perhaps concerning interpersonal and/or intertextual relationships, images & objects, personae, poetic form, archives, history, landscape, etc.).
- How and why do these works, *Spontaneous Particulars* and *Paterson*, complicate questions of reading & writing, such as: *where does the poem begin or end?*; or *where does any poetic tradition begin or end?*; or *how does the hybrid work celebrate and challenge originality?*; etc.
- Invent your own question.

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* and *Paterson*.

Length: 5-7 pages (not including your Works Cited page).  
Specs.: Times new Roman font, 12 point; double-spaced; 1" margins; hard copy, pages stapled.

**Due: Tuesday, April 7**