

ENGL 3040

Introduction to Publishing

Winter Quarter, 2021

Thursdays 2:00 – 5:40 p.m.

SH 453 / Hybrid

<https://udenver.zoom.us/j/3253839208>

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Description: How and where does literature live? This multimodal course studies the poetics of publishing as a community-engaged praxis at the intersections of aesthetics, material culture, and political / social dynamics. Emphasis will be given to hybrid works of multiple literacies that amplify the co-creative agency of their mediation and remediation, thereby energizing multimedia synergies among digital, analog, sonic, haptic, textual, and visual forms of creativity and critique. We will study a diversity of handmade, small press, letterpress, trade press, and artist book publications since 1931, connecting the legacy of the Objectivist writers (including Gertrude Stein, William Carlos Williams, Lorine Niedecker, and George Oppen, among others) to twenty-first-century archival interventions (via Susan Howe), transmedia performances (via Nathaniel Mackey), and postcolonial dreamworks (via Edgar Garcia). Those investigations will also concern artist books as sites of environmental activism (via Sammy Lee) and ideology critique (via Maureen Cummins) that challenge institutional power structures through time-based, site-specific installations. Particular emphasis will also be given to literary journals (such as *Poetry*, *Denver Quarterly*, and *Westerly*) as sites of community-engaged poetics and praxis. The course will also include virtual visits with authors, editors, and publishers. Assignments will include a variety of individual and collaborative projects blending creativity and critique that will connect the classroom to local, national, and international audiences.

Required Works:

Garcia, Edgar. *Skins of Columbus: A Dream Ethnography*. New York: Fence Books, 2019. ISBN: 9781944380106

Howe, Susan. *Spontaneous Particulars: The Telepathy of Archives*. New York: New Directions, 2020. ISBN: 9780811229777

---. *Concordance*. New York: New Directions, 2020. ISBN: 9780811229593

Mackey, Nathaniel. *Eroding Witness*. Pittsboro: Selva Oscura, 2018. ISBN: 9780988937796

Niedecker, Lorine. *Collected Works*. Ed. Jenny Penberthy. Berkeley: University of California, 2002. ISBN: 9780520224346

Oppen, George. *New Collected Poems*. Ed. Michael Davidson. New York: New Directions, 2008. ISBN: 9780811218054

Williams, William Carlos. *P A T E R S O N*. Ed. Christopher MacGowan. New York: New Directions, 1995. ISBN: 9780811212984

Recommended:

Abecedarian Gallery, <https://www.abecedariangallery.com/>

artbook@, <https://www.artbook.com/>

Artists' Books Online, <http://www.artistsbooksonline.org/>

Carl Rakosi: *The Last Objectivist*, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8yywGvH1ymM>

Denver Public Library, <https://www.denverlibrary.org/>

Denver Quarterly 54.1 (2020), <https://www.du.edu/denverquarterly/>

Drucker, Johanna. *The Century of Artists' Books*. New York: Granary Books, 2004.

Ebner, Shannon. *STRAY*. Portland, OR: Fonograf, 2019, <https://fonografeditions.com/albums/vinyl/>

FIVE S: a companion to *Denver Quarterly*, <https://fivesquarterly.com/>

Genghis Kern Letterpress & Design, <https://www.genghiskern.com/>

Gioia, Dana, et al, eds. *Twentieth-Century American Poetics*. Boston: McGraw Hill, 2004.

Greene, Roland, et al, eds. *The Princeton Encyclopedia of Poetry and Poetics*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2012, <https://search-credreference-com.du.idm.oclc.org/content/title/prpoetry?tab=entries>

Howard, W. Scott. "Broken Slivers: Susan Howe's *Concordance*." *Special Collections Showcase*. University Libraries, University of Denver (July 13, 2020): <https://dulibraries.wordpress.com/2020/07/13/broken-slivers-susan-howes-concordance/>

---. *Archive and Artifact: Susan Howe's Factual Telepathy*. Northfield, MA: Talisman House Publishers, 2019.

---. "TANGIBLE THINGS / Out of a stark oblivion?: Spellbinding TOM TIT TOT." *Special Collections Showcase*. University Libraries, University of Denver (August 5, 2015):

<https://dulibraries.wordpress.com/2015/08/05/tangible-things-out-of-a-stark-oblivion-spellbinding-tom-tit-tot/>

Howard, W. Scott, and Broc Rossell, eds. *Poetics and Praxis 'After' Objectivism*. Iowa City: University of Iowa Press, 2018, <https://ebookcentral.proquest.com/lib/du/detail.action?docID=5433869>

Matter Design Studio, <https://morematter.com/>

Museum of Anthropology @ DU, <https://www.du.edu/ahss/anthropology/museum/index.html>

Myhren Gallery @ DU, <http://vicki-myhren-gallery.du.edu/>

PennSound, <http://writing.upenn.edu/pennsound/>

Poetry 37.5 (February, 1931), <https://www-jstor-org.du.idm.oclc.org/stable/i20577896>

Poetry Foundation, <https://www.poetryfoundation.org/>

Rothenberg, Jerome, and Steven Clay, eds. *A Book of the Book*. New York: Granary, 2000.

Special Collections & Archives @ DU, <https://library.du.edu/collections-archives/specialcollections/>

Susan Howe, *Spontaneous Particulars*, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZTGPbiUm-3o>

Susan Howe and David Grubbs, *WOODSLIPPERCOUNTERCLATTER*, <https://vimeo.com/138668754>

Tilt West, <https://www.tiltwest.org/support/>

Z-site: a companion to the works of Louis Zukofsky, <http://www.z-site.net/>

Invitations:

One Notebook¹

Three Assemblages @ 20% (2 – 3 pages each)²

Three Écrits @ 40% (3 – 5 pages each)³

One Project @ 40% (10 – 12 pages or the equivalent, depending upon media)⁴

Notes on grading:

1. *The Check System*. I'll be grading your Écrits and Assemblages with a check system that will follow these guidelines. A check plus on all of these will translate into a grade of 4.0 / A for those percentages of your overall grade in the course. Each check will reduce your grade for those components by -0.5. Each check minus, by -1.0; each missing Écrit or Assemblage, by -2.0. If you ever receive less than a check plus, you will have the option to revise and resubmit for a higher grade. Those revisions (attached to the first draft) will be due by the beginning of the next class.
2. *The Point & Letter System*. I'll be grading your 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).

Note on attendance: For each unexcused absence, your final grade will be diminished by -0.5. **However, given the many variables in play during the pandemic, reasonable accommodations will be made.**

Note on assignments: Unless otherwise specified, all assignments are due at the beginning of class, as noted on the calendar: typed, double-spaced, 12-point, 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.

¹ For your generative work and also for your contributions to our discussions. Notebook will be neither collected nor graded. Prompts will be offered spontaneously during class meetings.

² Guidelines will be announced during class meetings.

³ Guidelines will be provided at least one week in advance.

⁴ One Project involving research. Open topic, media, form and style. The project should engage in some way with your selection of materials from our studies, and should also address contexts, methods, and works beyond that scope. Guidelines will be provided several weeks in advance. Project proposals required.

Calendar
(subject to changes):

- Week One:** *Intersections 'After' Objectivism: Poetry 37.5 (February, 1931)*
1/14 Course Introduction / Assemblages & Dialogues
Assemblage #1
Paterson @ The Internet Archive,
https://archive.org/stream/PatersonWCW/Paterson-William_Carlos_Williams_djvu.txt
Poetry 37.5 (February, 1931) / Williams & Howe / Gioia: selections
The Princeton Encyclopedia of Poetry and Poetics: selections
- Week Two:** *Intersections 'After' Objectivism: Poetry 37.5 (February, 1931)*
1/19 4:30 – 6:00 p.m., Presentation, W. Scott Howard, “colliding phenomena”: Susan Howe’s
Factual Telepathy,”
<http://dughost.imodules.com/s/1150/community/index.aspx?sid=1150&gid=1002&pgid=22089&cid=40052&ccid=40052>
- 1/21 2:00 – 2:45 p.m., Meeting with Jill Smith, Director, Publishing Institute, University of
Denver, <https://www.du.edu/publishinginstitute/>
Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, University of Denver,
<https://www.du.edu/equity>
Paterson @ The Internet Archive,
https://archive.org/stream/PatersonWCW/Paterson-William_Carlos_Williams_djvu.txt
Poetry 37.5 (February, 1931) / Williams & Howe / Gioia: selections
The Princeton Encyclopedia of Poetry and Poetics: selections
Denver Quarterly 54.1 (2020)
- Week Three:** **Williams & Howe & Mackey & Ebner**
1/28 Écrit #1
5:00 – 5:45 p.m., Meeting with Catherine Noske,
Editor, *Westerly: New Writing from Western Australia*
<https://westerlymag.com.au/>
Williams & Howe & Mackey & Ebner / Gioia: selections / *Denver Quarterly* 54.1 (2020)
Howard & Rossell: selections
- Week Four:** **Williams & Howe & Mackey & Ebner**
2/4 Special Collections, AAC 102: Little Magazine in America, Granary Books,
<https://www.granarybooks.com/>
Williams & Howe & Mackey & Ebner / Gioia: selections / *Denver Quarterly* 54.1 (2020)
Howard & Rossell: selections
- Week Five:** **Niedecker & Oppen**
2/11 Assemblage #2
Special Collections, AAC 102: Sammy Lee’s artist books & installations,
<https://www.studiosmlk.com/info>
Niedecker & Oppen / Gioia: selections / *Denver Quarterly* 54.1 (2020)
Howard & Rossell: selections
Artists’ Books Online, <http://www.artistsbooksonline.org/>

- Week Six:** **Niedecker & Oppen**
 2/18 Écrit #2
 Project Proposals
 DF McKenzie lecture, "The magazine and world literature," Francesca Orsini, Professor of Hindi and South Asian Literature, SOAS, University of London. Thursday, February 18, 5:00 - 6:00 p.m. GMT. This Zoom event is free and open to the public. The event is sponsored by Bodleian Libraries and the [Faculty of English, University of Oxford](https://www.english.ox.ac.uk/). If you would like to attend, you'll need to register in advance via this link, <https://visit.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/event/d-f-mckenzie-lecture-2021-magazine-and-world-literature>
 Niedecker & Oppen / Gioia: selections
 Artists' Books Online, <http://www.artistsbooksonline.org/>
 Drucker: selections
- Week Seven:** **Niedecker & Oppen & Garcia**
 2/25 3:00 – 4:00 p.m., Meeting with Maureen Cummins, artist book artist & publisher, <http://www.maureencummins.com/>
 Niedecker & Oppen & Garcia / Gioia: selections
 Artists' Books Online, <http://www.artistsbooksonline.org/>
 Drucker: selections
- Week Eight:** **Niedecker & Oppen & Garcia & Mackey**
 3/4 Niedecker & Oppen & Garcia & Mackey / Gioia: selections
 Artists' Books Online, <http://www.artistsbooksonline.org/>
 Drucker: selections
- Week Nine:** **Niedecker & Oppen & Garcia & Ebner & Mackey & Howe & Williams**
 3/11 Assemblage #3
 Niedecker & Oppen & Garcia & Ebner & Mackey & Howe & Williams
 Gioia: selections
Denver Quarterly 54.1 (2020) / *Poetry* 37.5 (February, 1931)
 Howard & Rossell: selections
- Week Ten:** **Niedecker & Oppen & Garcia & Ebner & Mackey & Howe & Williams**
 3/18 Écrit #3
 Niedecker & Oppen & Garcia & Ebner & Mackey & Howe & Williams
 Gioia: selections
Denver Quarterly 54.1 (2020) / *Poetry* 37.5 (February, 1931)
 Howard & Rossell: selections
- 3/19 Last day of classes / Projects due