

SYLLABUS FOR SEMESTER SYSTEM

based on

THE MIND’S EYE: A Guide to Writing Poetry

by Kevin Clark

Secondary text:

CONTEMPORARY AMERICAN POETRY

ed R.S. Gwynn and April Lindner

DATE	READING	ASSIGNMENTS DUE
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Week One: IMAGERY, IDIOM, AND INSPIRATION

Day 1 first day

Day 2 *The Mind’s Eye*: Introduction, Chapters 1 & 2

Week Two: SOUND AND IMAGE

Day 1 Choice of exercise: Chapters 1 or 2 [COPIED]

- Contemporary American Poetry:*
 Stern “The Dancing” 78
 Wright “Autumn Begins...” 145, “Lying in a Hammock...” 146
 Rich “Living in Sin” 163, “Diving into the Wreck” 164
 Barrax “Strangers Like Us...” 205
 Williams “Hood” 226
 Olds “Topography” 299
 Nye “The Traveling Onion” 418
 Addonizio “Target” 449

Day 2 *The Mind’s Eye*: Chapter 3

Week Three: CONFLICT, TRANSFORMATION AND REVISION

Day 1 Chapter 3 exercise [NOT COPIED]

- Contemporary American Poetry:*
 Ammons “First Carolina Said-Song” 101

Levine “They Feed They Lion” 150
Goldbarth “Dog, Fish, Shoes (or Beans)” 357

Day 2 *The Mind’s Eye*: Chapter 4

READING QUIZ

Week Four: PSYCHOLOGICAL PORTRAITURE / NARRATIVE TENSION / REVISION

Day 1

Chapter 4 exercise [COPIED]

Contemporary American Poetry:
Kinnell “After Making Love We Hear Footsteps” 128
Ruark 273 “Polio”
Lim “Starlight Haven” 323
Emanuel “Frying Trout While Drunk” 369
Dove “Adolescence III” 424

Day 2 *The Mind’s Eye*: Chapter 5

Week Five: PLOT AND DRAMA

Day 1

Chapter 5 [NOT COPIED]

Contemporary American Poetry:
Snodgrass “The Examination” 94
Strand “The Tunnel” 209
Nelson “Minor Miracle” 338
Hudgins “Heat Lightning in a Time of Drought” 410
Doty “Bill’s Story” 437
Fennelly “Asked for a Happy Memory” 483

Day 2

READING QUIZ

The Mind’s Eye: Chapter 6

Week Six: IMAGINATIVE LEAPS

Day 1

Chapter 6 exercise [NOT COPIED]

Contemporary American Poetry:
Hoffman “Bob” 55
Sexton “Cinderella” 159
Rich “Rape” 167
Plath “Daddy” 197
Stokesbury “The Day Kennedy Died” 332
Peacock “A Favor of Love” 346
Rose “Grandmother Rattler” 363

Day 2 *The Mind's Eye*: Chapter 7

READING QUIZ

Week Seven: OPEN FORMS VS TRADITIONAL FORMS

Day 1

Chapter 7 exercise [COPIED]

Contemporary American Poetry:
Kinnell “Goodbye” 129
Fairchild “Beauty” 287
McHugh “Better or Worse” 365
Goldbarth “Rarefied” 359

Day 2 *The Mind's Eye*: Chapter 8

READING QUIZ

Week Eight: THE SHAPES OF POEMS

Day 1

Chapter 8 exercise [NOT COPIED]

Contemporary American Poetry:
Wilbur “The Pardon” 18
Williams “Folding His *USA Today*...” 185
Hacker “Wagers” 300
Alvarez “Bilingual Sestina” 384
Schnackenberg “Nightfishing” 440

Day 2 *The Mind's Eye*: Chapter 9

Week Nine: POEMS OF DESIRE / POEMS OF HISTORY

Day 1

Chapter 9 exercise [NOT COPIED]

Contemporary American Poetry:
Dickey "The Sheep Child" 41
Hass "A Story About the Body" 265
Forche "The Colonel" 385
Mullen "Dim Lady" 436
Addonizio "Fine" 449

Day 2 *The Mind's Eye*: Chapter 10

READING QUIZ

Week Ten: SURREALISM / REALISM / ELEGY

Day 1

Chapter 10 exercise [COPIED]

Contemporary American Poetry:
Ginsberg "A Supermarket in California" 121
Bly "After Drinking All Night with a Friend" 125
Simic "I Was Stolen" 239
Edson "Ape" 214

Day 2 *The Mind's Eye*: Chapter 11

Week Eleven: MOURNING POEMS AND LOVE POEMS

Day 1

Chapter 11 exercise [NOT COPIED]

Contemporary American Poetry:
Merwin "For the Anniversary of My Death" 138, "The Last One" 139
Harper "We Assume..." 237
Ai "She Didn't Even Wave..." 353
Wiman "Afterwards" 473

Day 2 *The Mind's Eye*: Chapter 12

Week Twelve: POEMS OF DESIRE AND RESISTANCE

Day 1

Chapter 12 exercise [NOT COPIED]

- Contemporary American Poetry:*
- Dickey “Adultery” 40
- Espaillet “Visiting Day” 192
- Dunn “The Sexual Revolution” 252
- Hall “Sperm Count” 349
- Cortez “Undressing a Cop” 377
- Rios “The Purpose of Altar Boys” 429
- Dove “American Smooth” 426
- Andrews “Primping in the Rearview Mirror” 461

Day 2 *The Mind's Eye*: Chapter 13

READING QUIZ

Week Thirteen: NEW ANGLES, NEW CHALLENGES

Day 1

Chapter 13 exercise [COPIED]

- Contemporary American Poetry:*
- Nelson “Lonely Eagles” 335
- Hudgins “Air View of an Industrial Scene” 408
- Duhamel “Ego” 467

Day 2 *The Mind's Eye*: Chapter 14 & 15

Week Fourteen: STRETCHING THE IMAGINATION AND BREAKING THE RULES

Day 1

Choice of exercise: Chapters 14 or 15 [NOT COPIED]

- Day 2 *Contemporary American Poetry:*
- Stern “Behaving Like a Jew” 77
- Rogers “Discovering Your subject” 257
- Pinsky “Shirt” 259

Week Fifteen: “FINAL” REVISIONS

Day 1

NO POEM DUE

focus on final revisions

Contemporary American Poetry:

Hall “Maybe Dats Your Pwoblem Too” 347

McBride “If that Boaty Pink Cadillac...” 398

Lee “Persimmons” 463

Tufariello “Useful Advice” 468

Day 2 no reading due

READING QUIZ

Catch-Up workshop

FINAL EXAM

FINAL PORTFOLIO DUE

The final exam is the submission of your poetry portfolio. Each poem's revision should be stapled above its original. Please place all poems in a manila envelope, and write your name and contact information on the outside of the envelope.