


# Poetry Workshop

Grade Level: 12 Semester Elective: ½ Credit

**In this one-semester senior elective, students will learn how poetry, as both a modern and ancient form, responds to and shapes the attitudes, ideas, and values of the society in which it was created. Students will read poetry through various diverse lenses as they learn the art and craft of writing their own original poems, and they will study the elements of poetry as they study classic and contemporary poets. Through deepening their understanding of "what" and "how" a poem means, students develop their own individual poetic voices and styles in a "writing workshop" environment.**

## How is the course structured?

**Course Components**

- Reading and Analyzing Poetry, Questioning Techniques for Productive Discussion, Annotating Texts for Central Idea, Analysis and Evaluation, Research, Language Interpretation and Analysis, Steps of the Writing Process, Writing Analysis Essays and Poems

**Course Grade Based On:**

- Participation in Discussion, Individual and Small Group Activities, Daily Writing and Note-Taking, Projects, Research, Poetry and Essay Writing in a Variety of Modes

## What can I expect?

**Course Workload:**

- Active participation in class is necessary for success. Homework is given throughout the unit, and can be partly done in class. All work is presented on weekly activity lists, in advance, and students are encouraged to manage their time productively in class and out.

**Homework Frequency:**

- 1-2 times per week

**Type of Homework:**

- Reading and Annotating, Journal Responses for Close Reading, Outlining, Drafting, and Revision of Poems and Essays

**Major Projects:**

- Sound Devices Poem, Figurative Language Poem, Analysis Essay on the Beat Poets, Imagination Poem, Political Poem, Research Essay on Poet of Choice, Final Project - Poetry Portfolio

**Text Titles May Include:**

- *Sleeping on the Wing,* edited by Kenneth Koch and Kate Farrell; *An Invitation to Poetry,* edited by Robert Pinksy and Maggie Dietz; *Teaching the Art of Poetry: The Moves,* by Baron Wormser; *The Dead Poets Society,* film directed by Peter Weir, various models of effective poetry authored by diverse writers and voices.

**Additional Information:**

- This course will primarily be structured as a poetry writing workshop, and students will produce a portfolio of their own original poems by the end of the course.