

Poetry Since 1900
English 4823/6823
MWF 10:00-10:50

Fall 2013
Prof. R. West

BOOKS:

Ramazani, Jahan, Richard Ellmann, and Robert O'Clair, eds. *The Norton Anthology of Modern and Contemporary Poetry*. 3rd ed. 2 vols. New York: W. W. Norton, 2003.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

The course will provide an introduction to poetry written in English since 1900, with special attention to work by eight poets active in the early and middle part of the 20th century: William Butler Yeats, Robert Frost, Wallace Stevens, William Carlos Williams, Marianne Moore, T. S. Eliot, Langston Hughes, and W. H. Auden. We'll also briefly survey work by later poets inspired by those eight.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

A weekly reading journal, two papers (8-10 pp. each), and two exams.

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. . . After all, it's rather a privilege
amid the affluent traffic
to serve this unpopular art which cannot be turned into
background noise for study
or hung as a status trophy by rising executives,
cannot be "done" like Venice
or abridged like Tolstoy, but stubbornly still insists upon
being read or ignored . . .

From Auden's "The Cave of Making" (1964), part III of his "Thanksgiving for a Habitat."



Auden with his doppelgänger, Walter Matthau.