

English 4953/6953, Spring 2018
Section 1, 11:00-11:50 MWF

Prof. Robert West
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FORM AND THEORY OF POETRY

BOOKS:

Ammons, A. R. *Tape for the Turn of the Year*. (W. W. Norton, ISBN: 9780393312041)
Dove, Rita. *Collected Poems 1974-2004*. (W. W. Norton, ISBN: 9780393354935)
Eliot, T. S. *Four Quartets*. (Harcourt, ISBN: 9780156332255)
H. D. *Trilogy*. Ed. Alik Barnstone. (New Directions, ISBN: 9780811213998)
Walcott, Derek. *Omeros*. (Farrar, Straus and Giroux, ISBN: 9780374523503)
Warren, Robert Penn. *Brother to Dragons*. Rev. ed. (LSU Press, ISBN: 9780807121238)

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This semester the course will offer a study of the long poem and the long poetic sequence. After a brief look at some pre-1900 long poems and sequences, we'll spend most of the semester examining a variety from the 20th century.

From time to time we'll explicate self-contained passages of long poems and individual poems within sequences. Graduate students preparing for the M.A. exam may find this aspect of the course especially helpful.

WRITTEN WORK:

Two exams, two papers (6-8 pp. each), and weekly reading journal entries (1-2 pp. each).