I. Aim and Contents: The subject of this course is British poetry from T.S. Eliot to present. The course will cover the Modernist poetry and its influence on the poetry of the subsequent decades. Particular focus will be on the movement poetry and the poetry of the 1970s. Contemporary British poetry will be introduced through selected poets and poems written after the 1980s.

II. Course Outline:
Week I: (23 February Wednesday) Modernist Movement in poetry. Ezra Pound, T.S. Eliot
Week II: (2 March Wednesday) The Waste Land, I. “The Burial of the Dead”
Week IV: (16 March Wednesday) The Thirties. The Oxford School and Political Poetry, and the poetry of the Forties. ‘Neo-Romanticism.’

Week V: (23 March 2011 Wednesday MIDTERM I)


Week VII: (6 April Wednesday) Ted Hughes nature poetry, animal poetry; Seamus Heaney

Week VIII: (13 April Wednesday) Ted Hughes nature poetry, animal poetry; Seamus Heaney
Week IX: (20 April Wednesday) Poetry of the 1980s/90s and present: Simon Armitage

Week X: (27 April Wednesday) Poetry of the 1980s/90s and present, Carol Ann Duffy,
Week XI: (4 May 2011 Wednesday MIDTERM II)
Week XII: (11 May Wednesday) Carol Ann Duffy Jackie Kay, Linton Kwesi Johnson (Black British poetry)

Week XIII: (18 May Wednesday) Irish poetry, Paul Durcan
Week XIV: (25 May Wednesday) Continued.


IV. Method of Instruction: There will be introductory lectures on the twentieth century and contemporary British poetry, poetic traditions and poets. The poems will be read and discussed in class. Students should always have with them their anthologies or copies of the poems to be read.
V. Requirements: Attendance is obligatory. More than 11 (eleven) hours of absence will result in F1. Students should read the poems assigned for class discussion and should always have the texts with them. Students should also read the material suggested for secondary reading as they are expected to display a considerable knowledge of the literary background as well as the poets and poems themselves.

Assessment: In the grading of examination papers up to 25 % of the total mark will be taken off for grammatical and writing mistakes. Assessment will be made on two mid-term examinations which will take the form of well-developed essays on two of at least four questions given in the exam. These two exams will carry the 50 % of the total grade. The final examination will carry the remaining 50 %. Students should demonstrate that they have read the relevant secondary material and have done independent research. Students should present their arguments clearly and should display the ability to think independently. They should also demonstrate a good knowledge of the poets and the poems that the course covers.

VII. Suggested reading.


