

Poetry Assignments

Week 2 (Jan. 23) – **Poem 1 Due**

Week 3 (Jan. 30) – **Poem 2 Due**

Week 5 (Feb. 13) – **Poem 3 Due**

Week 6 (Feb. 20) – **Poem 4 Due**

Week 17 (May 8) – **Portfolio Due (five final poems included)**

Week 8 (March 6) – **Poem 5 Due**

Week 9 (March 13) – **Poem 6 Due**

Week 12 (April 3) – **Poem 7 Due**

Week 13 (April 10) – **Poem 8 Due**

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Choose any of these but do not repeat:

- Write a poem based on one of your abiding images
- Write a poem inspired by a recent news headline
- Write a poem inspired by an advertisement
- Write a poem inspired by weather
- Write a poem inspired by music
- Write a poem inspired by a photo or other physical art form
- Write a “found” poem (inspired by something you find in your immediate surroundings or possessions)
- Write a narrative poem
- Write a poem inspired by your deepest sorrow? There is a repeated motif in the blue tradition of meeting the devil at the crossroads. You might write about your own such encounter, a crossroads of your own life.
- Think of person who is no longer a part of your life either because they are now dead or because you've parted ways. Think of an object you associate with that person. Write a poem about the object that includes your underlying feelings.
- Recall a place that meant something to you as a child, a place that was special, a unique place, recall the uniqueness of your life at that place in a poem.
- Write a poem in the voice of an ancestor or someone you've never met.
- Write a poem inspired by a strong emotion or mood.
- Write a poem that strongly evokes all the senses.
- Write a poem about one of your strongest memories.
- Write a poem that defines or describes a specific larger-than-life topic such as sex, religion, birth, war, or a specific relationship (mother, father, lover, etc.)
- Write a poem inspired by one of our in-class exercises (this can be repeated for different exercises)
- Write a poem inspired by one of our readings for class

This list offers more than 18 topics/suggestions!!!