ENGL 112L   Poetry Presentation Instructions

For your Poetry Presentation, you will use PowerPoint to create a slide show that introduces a poet and one of their poems to your classmates.

Step 1: Select one of the poets on the list below and **read at least five of their poems**. You can find poems online by going to Poets.org, PoetryFoundation.org, or another source. *YOU MUST USE A POET ON THE LIST BELOW*. If you select a poet from the list below that was discussed in the class lectures, do not use poems that I provided for you or discussed in lectures. Do not select a poet you researched in the past. Use this as a chance to learn about a poet who is new to you.

Step 2: For your Poetry Presentation, **select one of the five poems you read** to interpret and present. The poem you present must be between 10 and 40 lines in length.

Step 3: Use academic sources (such as Literature Resource Center - if this link doesn't work, go to odu.edu / Libraries / Databases A-Z / L / Literature Resource Center) to research biographical information about the poet, the historical context of the poem (when it was written, what was going on in the poet's world at that time or at the time of the poem's setting), and any references or allusions in the poem. For example, if a poem references the Magna Carta, find out what that is and determine how the reference adds to an understanding of the poem.

Step 4: Analyze the poem's formal elements as presented in the lectures (for example, the use of images, metaphor, tone, alliteration, form, etc.). Your presentation should include a discussion of at least three of the poem's formal elements to help you interpret its literal and metaphorical meanings.

Step 5: Using what you've learned, create a PowerPoint slide show with narration (an audio recording of yourself reading and discussing the poem). Your presentation should include your reading of the poem aloud and your interpretation of it, based on the research you conducted. In addition, include a discussion of why you think the poem remains relevant in the year 2020. Do not transcribe your entire presentation onto the slides. Use a few slides as a speaking guide. Include a slide(s) with the poem itself, a slide that lists the titles of the other four poems you read by your poet, and a slide listing your sources (an informal list is fine). NOTE: If you quote directly from a source on one of your slides, use quotation marks to indicate that it is a direct quotation and note the name of the source on the slide.

Your presentation should last between **6 minutes minimum** and **7 minutes maximum.**

To create the PowerPoint slide show: Open a new PowerPoint file and click on the Slide Show tab at the top. To set up the slide show to advance automatically, click on "Set Up Slide Show" and under "Advance Slides" select "Using Timings." Then use "Record Slide Show" to narrate your presentation. The presentation should move automatically from slide to slide, accompanied by your audio narration. The audio recording is present when a grey speaker icon appears in the corner of the slides when you're in the edit mode. See the sample PowerPoint slide show in Module 4/ Blackboard.

To save your PowerPoint for submission: Use the "save as" function to save the presentation as a **PowerPoint Show** (*.ppsx). Test your show on a different computer to be sure that it plays automatically and that the audio files are attached.

If you are having trouble saving your PowerPoint show, it might be necessary to use MOVE, ODU's online lab. To access MOVE, go to https://move.odu.edu/. Click on either option. If you use the option on the right, you do not have to download anything. Log in with your ODU Midas information. Click on General Lab. Click on the start icon in the bottom left corner of the screen, click on All Programs, click on Microsoft Office, click on PowerPoint (or just click on PowerPoint if it appears earlier). You will be able to save your PowerPoint as a PowerPoint Show with this option.

Step 6: Submit your Poetry Presentation using the instructions on Blackboard.

HELP!

If you are using a MAC and/or if these instructions do not work, check the Q&A on Blackboard or contact itshelp@odu.edu for assistance.

For additional help with your PowerPoint slide show, see the Resources Links and Help section on Blackboard.

Select a poet from this list

Claude McKay
Langston Hughes
Georgia Douglas Johnson
Billy Collins
Gwendolyn Brooks
E.E. Cummings
Lucille Clifton
Naomi Shihab Nye
Yusef Komunyakaa
Phillis Wheatley
Mary Oliver
Paul Lawrence Dunbar
Emily Dickinson
Walt Whitman

William Carlos Williams
Elizabeth Alexander
Nikki Giovanni
Li-Young Lee
Denise Levertov
W.H. Auden
Ezra Pound
Marianne Moore
Allen Ginsberg
Elizabeth Bishop
Martín Espada
Audre Lorde
Edgar Lee Masters

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow
T.S. Eliot
Juan Felipe Herrera
Amiri Baraka
Richard Blanco
Kay Ryan
Emma Lazarus
Natasha Trethewey
Ralph Waldo Emerson
Tracy K. Smith
Natalie Diaz (ODU alum)
Ocean Vuong
Maggie Smith
Aimee Nezhukumatathil

Criteria for Evaluation of Presentation
These are the criteria I will use to evaluate your presentation.

1. Was the reading of the poem smooth, powerful, and well-practiced?
2. Was background information given about the poet and the historical context?
3. Were references and allusions in the poem explained?
4. Were the literal subject matter and metaphorical meaning explained using formal elements and examples from the poem?
5. Was the relevance of the poem effectively articulated?
6. Was the time used effectively?
7. Did the presentation include a slide with the poem itself, a slide with a list of four additional poems, and a slide listing research sources?