English 381/SWGS 327 Thad Logan

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HRG 325 X2772

Office Hours: M 2-5 and by appointment

Anyone needing assistance in this class should let me know right away, and should also contact Disability Services, Allen Center, Room 111; Phone: (main) 713-348-5841  
Fax: 713-348-5888; E-mail: [adarice@rice.edu](mailto:adarice@rice.edu). All such discussions are confidential.

Course Goals: To read a diverse selection of poetry written by women since 2000.

To investigate what it means to be a “woman” and what it means

to engage in the practice of writing poetry.

You must complete all assignments to pass the course. **You are expected to attend all class meetings**: more than 2 unexcused absences may affect your final grade. Even excused absences (due to illness or personal emergencies) of more than a total of six classes may make it necessary to drop the class.

You will be expected to attend at least 1 poetry readings given by a woman during the course of the semester, and to write a brief response to it.

I expect all papers and assignments to be turned in on the date they are due. I will be glad to work with you on re-writes, but I will not accept late papers except in truly remarkable circumstances. Just turn in the paper, even if it is very bad. We can take it from there.

Written Assignments:

Sept. 2: Short (1 pg) Response

Sept. 19: **Paper #1** 5 pp. Choose to write on one craft element (line, image, voice,

structure) in two poems from *So Much Synth* OR

two craft elements in one poem.

Oct. 9: **Paper #2** 5pp. Discuss “confession” and “I-dentity”

Nov. 14: **Paper#3 5** pp. Map your journey through a difficult poem

Final Paper: due last day of finals. 10 pp.

Your Conclusions (or Hypotheses) about Gender and Contemporary Poetry by Women

Method of Grading: 3 essays 60%

Final Paper 20%

Class Participation 20%

English 381/SWGS 327 Contemporary Women’s Poetry MWF 10-10:50 BKH 116

M 22 Introduction

W 24 “One out of Twelve” from *Silences*, Tillie Olsen (Handout)

F 26 Dickinson, Plath, Wakowski selections (Handout)

M 29 “When We Dead Awaken,” Adrienne Rich (Packet)

W 31 Re-visions: Broumas, Glück, Duffy selections (Handout)

F SEPT 2 Re-visions, cont. **Short Response Paper Due**

M 5 NO CLASS: LABOR DAY

W 7 *Feminine Gospels*, Carol Ann Duffy, pp. 1-34

F 9 *Gospels*, pp. 35-65

M 12 *So Much Synth*, Brenda Shaughnessy, Parts I and II

W 14 “Pants on Fire,” Kim Addonizio (Packet)

F 16 *Synth*, Parts III and IV

M 19 “One is Not Born a Woman,” Monique Wittig (Packet)

W 21 *What Gender Is/What Gender Does*, Judith Roof, excerpt (Packet)

F 23 “Tiresias,” Kate Tempest (Packet)

M 26 *Butch Geography*, Stacey Waite, Parts I and II

W 28 *Geography*, Parts III and IV

F 30 “The Semiotics of Sex,” Jeanette Winterson (Packet) +

selections from *Troubling the Line*, ed. TC Tolbert and

Tim Trace Peterson

M OCT 3 “La Guera,” Cherrie Moraga (Packet)

W 5 *When My Brother was an* *Aztec,* Natalie Diaz, Parts I and II

F 7 *Aztec*, Part III

M 10 NO CLASS: MIDTERM RECESS

W 12 “The Master’s Tools Will Never Dismantle the Master’s House,” and

“Poetry is Not a Luxury,” Audre Lorde (Packet)

F 14 selections from Rankine, Jordan, Tretheway

M 17 *Shoulda Been Jimi Savannah*, Patricia Smith, parts 1 and 2

W 19 *Jimi Savannah,* parts 3 and 4

F 21 *Jimi Savannah,* part 5

M 24 “Disruption, Hesitation, Silences,” Louise Glück (Packet)

W 26 *As for Dreams*, Saskia Hamilton

F 28 *Dreams*

M 31 “The Laugh of the Medusa,” Helene Cixoux (Packet)

W NOV 2 L-A-N-G-U-A-G-E poetry; Brock-Broido (Handout)

F 4 Rae Armantrout, selected poems and “Cheshire Poetics” (Packet)

M 7 Selected poems, Howe, Hejinian, Mullen (Handout)

W 9 Selected poems, Kalytiak Davis (Handout)

F 11  *Trances of the Blast*, Mary Ruefle, pp. 1-59

M 14 “On Sentimentality,” Mary Ruefle (Packet)

W 16 *Trances,* pp. 60-110

F 18 *Standing Water*, Eleanor Chai

M 21 *Water*

W 23 *Water*

F 25 NO CLASS: THANKSGIVING BREAK

M 28 Videos

W 30 Videos

F DEC 2 Conclusions