



# ENG 131: Poetry in America: 1850-1945

## Overview

Drawing from the acclaimed *Poetry in America* PBS series, **Poetry in America: 1850-1945** spans a critical era in American literature, beginning with antebellum and Civil War poetry and taking us through the transformative Modernist era. Featuring a combination of video tutorials and conversations, archival images and texts, expeditions to historic literary sites, sample classroom visits, and practical exercises designed to engage learners and support skills development, this course introduces content and techniques intended to help learners read texts of increasing complexity.

## What You'll Learn

Our study opens with the poetry of the American Civil War and the series of major events and movements that followed, including Reconstruction, Jim Crow, industrialization, and urbanization.

As we enter the 20th century, we encounter Modernism, a movement spanning the 1910s to the mid-1940s whose poetry marked a clear break from past traditions and forms. Students will encounter works of art across media—painting, sculpture, film, architecture, and dance, as well as poetry.

## How to Succeed

To be successful in this course, we recommend English language fluency and computer literacy. We also encourage you to make sure your laptop or desktop computer meets the [technical requirements](#).

### Watch the Course Trailers:

Part 1: [bit.ly/497NNjG](http://bit.ly/497NNjG)  
Part 2: [bit.ly/427CfuJ](http://bit.ly/427CfuJ)

## Earn College Credit

This course appears on your transcript identically to how it appears on the transcript of an enrolled ASU student.

This course satisfies 3 credit hours toward the Historical Awareness (H) General Studies requirements for Arizona State University. It is strongly encouraged that you consult with your institution of choice to determine how these credits will be applied.

In order to receive academic credit for this course, you must earn a grade of "C" or better. You have one year to add the course to your transcript.

## Exams and Grading

20%

Annotation  
Assignments

30%

Reading Response  
Assignments

20%

Content Quizzes

10%

Creative Project

20%

Final Exam

POETRY  
IN AMERICA

**ASU** Universal Learner  
Courses  
Arizona State University

# ENG 131: Continued

## Time Commitment

This is an asynchronous, online course. This means, while you will have deadlines, you do not need to be at your computer at specific times or participate in live activities.

To be successful in this class, you must view all course pages and complete all graded work by the deadlines indicated. Also, keep in mind that "attendance" in an online course means logging into the platform on a regular basis, checking for course announcements, and visiting and participating in the discussion forums.

This 3 credit, 16 week course requires about 135 hours of work. Therefore, expect to spend approximately 8-10 hours per week preparing for and engaging in this course.

## Materials

This course makes use of open educational resources (OERs) provided within the course, **no purchase necessary**.

## Graded Assignments

Graded assignments are required and count towards your final grade. Students must submit all assignments via the course site unless otherwise instructed.

## Assignment Deadlines

Your instructional team will provide all content and learning activities on or through your course site. It is your responsibility to review all content, fulfill all assignments on time, and ask any questions you have in the designated discussion area. It is also your responsibility to determine the due dates and times for all course assignments according to your time zone. Due to the large-scale format of Universal Learner Courses, late assignments will not be accepted at any point during the course, and we cannot make exceptions.

## Course Communication

All communication will take place via the discussion forums and course announcement page. There will be a discussion forum where you can post general questions, comments, and direct inquiries for the instructor and course team. Please use these forums to ensure a timely response. Your instructor will not be able to respond to email.

## Additional Information

If you have questions about Universal Learner Courses and how they work, please visit [ea.asu.edu](http://ea.asu.edu) or contact our support team at [ulcourses@asu.edu](mailto:ulcourses@asu.edu).