

# The Singing Muse: Poetry—Process and Practice

## Rebecca Chamberlain

### Weekly Program Schedule

Summer 2007

See syllabus and handouts for details on readings and assignments.

This schedule is subject to revision.

<p><b>Week of Aug. 1</b> Grounding-The Word Made Flesh--the Senses</p> <p><b>Introductions:</b></p> <p>Introduce yourself to the Muse:</p> <p>The Power of Names—name poems</p> <p>The Word Made Flesh: Grounding ourselves in a sense of place;</p> <p>Landscape and Language—finding the voice in all things-- Stars, Stones, Slugs, and Ethno-poetics</p> <p>Some Issues in Orality and Literacy: Bards, Griots, &amp; Storytellers- The roots of the poetic tradition</p> <p>Writing Workshop: Writing On Stone Renga 10 word poems</p> <p>-----</p> <p>Due Each Week: Reading Response Paper (See reading response handout for details.)</p> <p><u>Reading</u> -Tolkien’s “Sir Gawain and the Green Knight.”</p> <p>-Singing Muse Reader, “Week One.”</p> <p><u>Western Wind</u> 2 Credits- Ch.1. 4 Credits- Ch. 1-2 8 Credits-Ch.1-3</p>	<p><b>Week of Aug. 8</b> The Poetic Tradition- Inspiration, Symbols &amp; the Sublime</p> <p>Ceredwyn &amp; Taliesin- the Bardic Tradition</p> <p>Introduction to Alliteration, the Romance, &amp; Narrative Poems; Toelkin’s Green Knight.</p> <p>Writing Workshop: Going to the Well of Inspiration.</p> <p>Question Poems</p> <p>-Seminar on poems &amp; readings.</p> <p>-----</p> <p>Due: Response Paper</p> <p><u>Reading</u> -Blake: <i>Songs of Innocence, Songs of Experience,</i></p> <p>-Singing Muse Reader, “Week Two.”</p> <p><u>Western Wind</u> 2 Credits- Ch. 2-3 4 Credits- Ch. 3-4 8 Credits-Ch. 4-6</p>	<p><b>Week of Aug. 15</b> Word &amp; Image/Self and Voice.</p> <p>Blake’s Manuscript Tradition- “The Tigers of Wrath and Horses of Instruction.”</p> <p>Poetic Justice: Social, Political, &amp; Historic Influences in traditional &amp; contemporary poetry</p> <p>(4-8 Credits): Presentation of 1 page Research Projects</p> <p>Writing Workshop: Wild Words—Bringing Blake to Life</p> <p>-Seminar on poems &amp; readings.</p> <p>-----</p> <p>Due: Response Paper</p> <p>(4-8 Credits) Research Project Presentation &amp; 1 Page Handout</p> <p><u>Reading</u> -Blake: <i>Marriage of Heaven &amp; Hell.</i></p> <p>-Singing Muse Reader, “Week Three.”</p> <p><u>Western Wind</u> 2 Credits- Ch. 5 4 Credits- Ch. 5-6 8 Credits-Ch. 7-9</p>	<p><b>Week of Aug. 22</b> The Power of Words, and Words of Power- Word Play</p> <p>The Power of Presence: Guest Poet/Songwriter: Michael Shohan.</p> <p>Whitman’s influence, and the contemporary poetic tradition.</p> <p>Writing Workshop- Haiku/ American Sentence</p> <p>-Seminar on poems &amp; readings.</p> <p>-----</p> <p>Due: Response Paper</p> <p>-Blake: <i>Marriage of Heaven &amp; Hell.</i></p> <p>-Singing Muse Reader, “Week Four.”</p> <p><u>Western Wind</u> 2 Credits- Ch. 6 4 Credits- Ch. 7-8 8 Credits-Ch. 10-12</p> <p>(2-4 Credits) Mary Oliver or Walt Whitman</p>	<p><b>Week of Aug. 29</b> Hip-Hop Poetry Pot-Luck: 866-2141.</p> <p>The Power of Words: Guest Poets on Rap &amp; Hip-Hop, Michael Kinnick; The Poetic Tradition, Casey Fuller; Poetry &amp; Everyday Life Juniper Zars-White.</p> <p>A Community of Poets-- Final Presentations.</p> <p>-Final Seminar on poems &amp; readings.</p> <p>-----</p> <p>Due: <i>Blake: Marriage of Heaven &amp; Hell.</i></p> <p>-Singing Muse Reader, “Week Five.”</p> <p><u>Western Wind</u> 2 Credits- Ch. 7 4 Credits- Ch. 9-10 8 Credits-Ch. 13-14 -Portfolios</p> <p>-First draft of writing project: essay, poems, or research paper. (<b>Bring 3 copies</b> of your work.)</p>
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<p><b>July 15th</b> 9:00-5:00 Word &amp; Image/Self and Voice.</p> <p><b>Writing Workshop:</b> The Emotional Color Spectrum-The “Mona Lisa Smile”-Writing from emotion.— Poetry Therapy.</p> <p><b>Word &amp; Image: Manuscript as Mirror of the Self.</b> Manuscript Workshop-Bring pieces of parchment paper, felt pens, colored pencils, rulers, and art supplies to share in a manuscript workshop.</p> <p>Afternoon:</p> <p><b>Found Poems:</b> Bring 4-5 objects from home for a writing project.</p> <p>The Metaphysical Poets</p> <p>Looking at poetic structure and form: Sonnet, Villanelle, Lyric and other forms.</p> <p><b>Nature’s Rapture: The Romantic Poets</b></p> <p>3:00-<b>The Delicious Life—Award Winning Poet: Jean Lowman</b> on her poems, the cannon, editing &amp; revising, use of punctuation, etc.</p> <p>----- Due: Art Supplies for Manuscript Workshop</p> <p>Bring 4-5 objects from home for a writing workshop.</p>	<p><b>August 16<sup>th</sup></b> 9:00-5:00 The Power of Words &amp; Words of Power</p> <p><b>Poetry in War-Time:</b> Poems about war-and the human spirit-though the ages. Workshop: Love &amp; War: What does Walt Whitman &amp; other poets say about love &amp; war?</p> <p><b>Performance of Memorized Poems</b></p> <p><b>Writing as Re-Visioning, &amp; Peer Editing Workshop:</b> The Guiding Muse- Poetry Practice in Everyday Life--Writing, editing, &amp; transforming your life through poetry.</p> <p><i>The energy of revision is the energy of creation and change, which is also the energy of destruction.</i> -Maggie Anderson</p> <p>Afternoon: <b>Poet-Tree</b> Workshop</p> <p><b>Word Play-</b> Memory &amp; Meaning: Proverbs, Riddles, Rhymes, Ballads, Chants, Songs, &amp; Jingles <b>Shamans, Saints, &amp; Mystics</b> — Chants, Invocations, Contemplative &amp; Ecstatic Poetry. Poetry Collage Workshop</p> <p>----- Due: First Draft of poems -Performance of memorized poems. -Bring: Verbs, Nouns, Adjectives, images, etc.</p>			
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