

Why Poetry

Hosts: Dr. Charles Johnson and Dr. Ann Kneavel

Part Lecture/Part Workshop

Remote Zoom Class Using PowerPoint Presentations

Class Limit: No Limit

Class Description (word count 74)

Why poetry? How does poetry relate to business? How does it relate to me—to my life? What does “iambic pentameter” mean, really? Who cares! Will poetry make me a closer reader, an improved writer? Well, maybe. The careful examination of words may help clean up our world’s “word-clogged” reality. Understand rhyme, meter, figurative language and writing couplets, ballads, sonnets and free verse. Come join us in examining the “nuts and bolts” of poetry.

Class Syllabus

Week 1: Explore poetic prose and rhyming poetry. Attempt writing couplets.

Week 2: Explore foot and meter. Analyze a poem. Endeavor to write a one-stanza ballad.

Week 3: What is a sonnet? Undertake writing one.

Week 4: Is free verse really free? What is figurative language and how can using it help my writing? Try composing a poem using free verse.

Week 5: Analyze a poem to improve your close-reading skills.