

Advanced Poetics Covenant

1. I, _____ (print), being of sound mind, body, and in full possession of my mental capacities, do hereby agree to both the spirit and the letter of this document. The following points of agreement have been laid out between the students and faculty of the program Advanced Poetics, to ensure that there is a clear understanding of what is expected of program members: only participants who produce work in compliance with this covenant, the program syllabus, and program guidelines and rules of The Evergreen State College, are eligible to earn credit awarded by the faculty. I have freely reviewed this covenant and agreed to it.
2. GENERAL PHILOSOPHY: This program is an experimental and collaborative enterprise, inclusive of both creative and critical work.
3. ATTITUDE: I will strive for excellence in all my work in the program and maintain an attitude of enthusiasm for and engagement in the goals of the program in all circumstances. I understand that this means I will have to take interest in people and ideas that may not immediately flip my switch; but deep down I know that I am not perfect or complete and am therefore driven to change and grow through new experiences.
4. CODE of ETHICS: Participation in Advanced Poetics requires that I behave within a code of ethics that includes inclusive attitude, respect of diversity, affirmation of differences, mutual respect, full disclosure, cooperation, task dedication, sufficient and effective work, exchange of ideas, the sharing of materials relevant to the program, meaningful experimentation, and full compliance with the Social Contract at Evergreen.
5. RESPECT: I hereby choose to express my understanding that truth is elusive. I understand that while I do not have to agree with the perceived truth of others I must behave with respect and consideration for those who express their views openly or show their artwork in public. I will strive to create a learning community where expression of dissenting views is seen as an opportunity for examination and exchange of ideas for all, for learning how to think differently, and as a chance for learning about different ways of thinking. I recognize that I may be offended, disturbed, or angered by the work of others, and that this is an inevitable part of art-making. I also recognize as a writer that language always implies an *other*, and that this other must be respected.
6. PARTICIPATION: I hereby choose to recognize that education at Evergreen is participatory and requires me to share my ideas, questions, and concerns with my peers and faculty; though doing so may make me uncomfortable, I understand that such risks are at the core of the learning process and will benefit myself and others.
7. COMMITMENT: I hereby choose to attend all classes and program functions on time, fully prepared, clean, sober, not drugged, and open to learning (mine and others). Failure to attend classes and class activities will automatically result in loss of credit. I agree that illness is part of life, as is contagion, and that I will only miss class under the direst of circumstances—such is the gravity of my commitment.
8. WORK GUIDELINES: I hereby agree to follow the Program Guidelines. I will consult and abide by the College plagiarism policy. I will submit all of my work on time, in hard copy (digitally only if absent due to terrible illness). Missing work is not a credit-worthy form of silence, nor does a complete portfolio at the end of the quarter excuse a quarter of absences and/or late and/or missing work.
9. HARASSMENT: I will abide by the Sexual Harassment Policy. Faculty and students will do everything we can to foster a learning environment free from sexual harassment and from discrimination (please see The Evergreen State College's Sexual Harassment Policy). We will not tolerate sexual harassment nor discrimination with respect to race, sex, age, handicap, sexual orientation, gender expression, religious or political belief, or national origin. Program participants who believe they have been party to sexual harassment or a discriminatory situation described above as part of their experience in the program are encouraged to consult with the faculty as soon as possible. Students can always talk confidentially to any of the many resource staff available on campus dedicated to offer confidential assistance in cases related to discrimination issues, rape, and sexual harassment.
10. GRIEVANCE & CONFLICT RESOLUTION: I hereby choose to resolve all conflicts and disagreements related to the program pursuing the steps outlined below in the following order:

- First Step: I will address directly and tactfully the person whose actions, in my view, allegedly caused what I see as a conflict. I will attempt to resolve the matter promptly taking into consideration the point of view of the person in question. If the issue is not resolved best by communicating directly with the person in question, I will pursue to Step Two.
- Second Step: If Step One is not successful in resolving the matter, I will make a member of the program faculty aware of the situation confidentially and ask for intervention. If a Faculty member's actions are the alleged source of the conflict, I may discuss it with the Faculty member directly or get advice from the Campus Grievance Officer (Joe Tougas) in case dealing directly with the Faculty is not proper.
- Third Step: If Step Two is not successful in resolving the matter, or the issue involves a faculty member and direct discussion has not been satisfactory, I will make one of the Academic Deans aware of the conflict.

After Step Three, I will follow Evergreen's Grievance Process. In case that talking to faculty or deans is uncomfortable or embarrassing, our campus has staff dedicated to offer confidential assistance in cases related to sexual harassment and other discrimination concerns. The College also has available for me a Grievance Officer (Joe Tougas) who helps advise people who are facing conflictive situations and an office of Mediation Services that helps people who want to use mediation to resolve conflict.

11. EVALUATIONS: A written Self-Evaluation and Student Evaluation of Faculty, presentation of a Portfolio of Student Work, and an Evaluation Conference are required.
12. CREDIT: Full credit for this program is 16 credits per quarter. I will receive credit for fulfilling minimum requirements and meeting standards determined by the faculty. Credit award shall be based on the overall quality of my Portfolio, my completed contribution to the Joint Evaluation, evidence of my adherence to deadlines and schedules, attendance record, a required final evaluation conference, and clear evidence of my active participation in all program activities. The Faculty, based on actual college level work completed on time only, will make a final credit determination. Incompletes will not be granted except under the most extenuating circumstances and only given after consultation with the faculty before the quarter 's end.
13. ATTENDANCE: Attendance to all program events and the completion and timely presentation of required work for the rest of the quarter merits the award of full credit.

SIGNED: _____ Date: _____

By (print name): _____