

Modern Poetry 475/575 Andrew McKeown

Required text: *The 20th Century in Poetry*, eds Michael Hulse & Simon Rae, Ebury Press 2011

This course aims to offer an enriching and enjoyable reading of some of the major (and also minor) poets of the 20th century. We will give consideration to a number of issues raised in the 'modern' period, including: the question of 'Modernism' itself, poetry and performance, poems of circumstance, the 'Canon', poetry & pop culture, the future of poetry...

Classwork will also involve debates taking their cue from David Orr's book *Beautiful & Pointless*, Harper, 2012, extracts from which will be distributed in class.

Learning outcome: In this course students will expand and refine their understanding of modern poetry. It is equally hoped they will learn to explain and justify their opinions in both written and oral contexts with greater clarity and command of English.

Assessment will be based on a number of criteria & exercises:

- \* unseen commentary (40%)
- \* poet profile, poetry reading & the making and distribution of a poetry fanzine (50%)
- \* class participation and attendance (10%)