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UNH Receives Humanities Council Grant for a Summer Teachers Institute on Robert Frost

By [Erika Mantz](#)
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DURHAM, N.H. — Teachers can spend a week this summer immersed in the life and times of poet Robert Frost, thanks to a University of New Hampshire institute funded in part by the New Hampshire Humanities Council and presented by nationally known humanists like Mekeel McBride and David Watters.

In addition to immersing teachers in the life and times of the poet during his years in Derry, "Robert Frost: Yesterday and Today" is designed to introduce teachers to the Robert Frost of today by presenting the critical debate that is energizing study and appreciation of his poetry.

The institute will present Frost's responses to changes in rural and urban life, to educational theories and practice, to childrearing debates, and to grand historical themes like immigration, gender relations and the legacy of the Civil War.

Three of the participating humanists will address teaching poetry itself. Mekeel McBride, a nationally known poet and award-winning UNH professor, will read from her own work. Julie Brinker of the UNH Department of Theatre and Dance, who specializes in children's education, will share her professional techniques of working with children on dramatic presentation. Teachers will also travel to the Robert Frost Farm in Derry to work with Ian Veitenheimer of Pinkerton Academy, a published poet and trustee of the farm. Veitenheimer will discuss his research and how it is used to teach Frost.

In addition, workshops will be offered on the new technologies available for researching and teaching in

the humanities, including the Internet.

For more information on the institute, contact David Watters at 862-3983 or via e-mail at dhw@cisunix.unh.edu.

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