

ENGLISH 3803
INTERMEDIATE POETRY WORKSHOP
Spring 2017
MW 3:30-4:45
Dr. Catherine Pierce

Course Description:

This course is intended for students seeking to deepen their understanding of the craft of writing poetry. Intermediate Poetry will continue where Creative Writing left off—now that you have the foundations of writing poetry, you will build on those skills to craft a sophisticated, risk-taking portfolio of work that showcases your deepening engagement with contemporary poetry and the challenges and nuances of writing it. We will explore form, lineation, the benefits of imitation, the pitfalls and exhilarations of writing autobiographically and through personae, and the wonderful-terrible art of revision. We will employ the workshop method in order to offer constructive criticism for one another's poems, and we will read work by significant contemporary poets in order to further our understanding of the current world of American poetry. (Prereq: EN 3303)

Requirements: Our primary focus will be on your own **poems**; at the semester's end, you will turn in a portfolio of your finished, revised work. Other assignments will include an **Artist's Statement**, a **craft paper/presentation**, thoughtful **critiques** (written and oral) of your peers' poems, and **reading attendance**.

Texts:

The Best American Poetry 2016, ed. David Lehman and Edward Hirsch
Thomas and Beulah, Rita Dove
What I've Stolen, What I've Earned, Sherman Alexie
Bright Dead Things, Ada Limón



Questions? Email cpierce@english.msstate.edu