

Fall 2019

Dr. Richard Lyons, Lee 2505

Course Name: Craft of Poetry

Course Number EN 4303/6303

Section Number 01

#### Required Paperbacks

1. *Neruda & Vallejo, Selected Poems*, Editor Robert Bly, Beach Press, Boston, ISBN 9780807064894

2. *Sharks in the Rivers*, Ada Limón, Milkweed, ISBN 978-1-57131-438-3

3. *The Complete Poems, Elizabeth Bishop*, Farrar Straus Giroux, ISBN 9780374518172

4. *American Sonnets for My Past and Future Assassin*, Terrance Hayes, Penguin, ISBN 978-0-14-313318-6

#### Course Description

Craft of Poetry is MSU's most advanced studio class in the writing of poetry.

The prerequisites are completion of Introduction to Creative Writing and completion of Intermediate Poetry.

This class is a writing-intensive class. Graduate students do not need these requirements but should be ready for a class that requires close reading, ambitious writing, and a willingness to grow as an author through the processes of rigorous revision.

The successful student realizes the value of professional models and, therefore, is eager to read the required books of poems. The successful student is also aware that poetry writing is aimed at an adult audience and that poetry is not merely diary or memoir writing though these kinds of discourse are sometimes useful to some professional poets.

Successful students are aware that punctuation is one of the tools toward emotional clarity.

This course will assign or suggest readings in poetics and prosody.