

ENG 313: Creative Writing Workshop: Poetry with Jenny Johnson

Wednesday 4:00-6:50 p.m.

Spring 2021



In this class, writing new poems, playing with form, metaphor, sound, syntax, trying new techniques, close reading, workshopping your poems, recognizing your obsessions, refusing to write your obsessions, writing them anyway, and revising will become ritual. So that you might learn more about your own voice in relation to other poets, we will be reading a range of contemporary poetry by writers, such as, Ada Limón, Ocean Vuong, Richard Siken, Jennifer Chang, Ross Gay, Shira Erlichman, Oliver Bendorf, and Keith Wilson. A portfolio that represents your best work will be due at the end of the term. Above is a painting by Charline von Heyl titled Poetry Machine #3. Often when we're workshopping poems, we learn that our poems are smarter than we are. Certainly, an aim for this course is for you to grow to better understand your own poetry machines!