



English 213: Creative Writing, Poetry

Tuesdays and Thursdays, 1:00-2:15

Location: TBA

Professor: Mark Brazaitis

“I Have Wasted My Life.”

Don't! Take English 213, where you'll be doing the opposite of wasting your life—you'll be writing poetry. Expect to write (and re-write!) at least twelve poems. And expect to read dozens of great poems such as the one by James Wright quoted above:

LYING IN A HAMMOCK AT WILLIAM DUFFY'S FARM IN PINE ISLAND, MINNESOTA

Over my head, I see the bronze butterfly,
Asleep on the black trunk,
Blowing like a leaf in green shadow.
Down the ravine behind the empty house,
The cowbells follow one another
Into the distances of the afternoon.
To my right,
In a field of sunlight between two pines,
The droppings of last year's horses
Blaze up into golden stones.
I lean back, as the evening darkens and comes on.
A chicken hawk floats over, looking for home.
I have wasted my life.