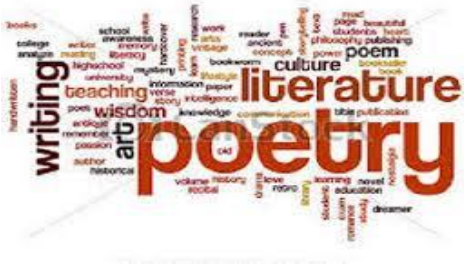

English 213: Creative Writing, Poetry

Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays, 2:30-3:20
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.

In English 213, you'll learn about sonnets, sestinas, and other formal poems. You'll learn about alliteration, meter, and eye rhymes. You'll learn how to use your natural voice—there's a poet in all of us!—to create something moving, beautiful, and meaningful.