

ENG 213: Creative Writing Workshop: Poetry with Jenny Johnson
Tues/Thurs 1:00-2:15 p.m.
Fall 2024



This is a photo of poet Muriel Rukeyser's eye taken by her friend, the artist Berenice Abbott.

Hello, poets! This course is an introduction to reading and writing poetry. In this class, you are a poet; we will call each other poets.

Crucial to being a writer is maintaining a ritualistic writing practice, so you will be asked to generate new material weekly. One of the best ways to grow as writers is by reading, so simultaneously you be asked to close read poems. Primarily, we will be reading contemporary American poetry, so that you can deepen your awareness of poems being written in our time. You will also have a chance to close read the work of your peer via workshop as well. Together you will be working side by side as makers to hone your skills by studying poems, developing a vocabulary with which to talk about those poems, identifying our own material for writing poems, and sharing and offering feedback on each other's work. 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 Baez Bendorf, to name a few.