Course Title: Poem-a-Day: Poetry and Creativity as a Daily Practice  
Course Code: WSP 49  
Instructor: Brittany Perham

Course Summary:

This workshop is intended to help you develop and sustain a personal poetry writing practice. Students will investigate topics such as image, lineation, and form that are relevant to crafting strong poems; and they will leave the course with strategies for strengthening and invigorating their creative processes.

*Please see course page for full description and additional details.

Grade Options and Requirements:

Because of its short format, this workshop may not be taken for credit or a letter grade.

Tentative Outline:

Part 1. A discussion of creative process and practice:

We’ll begin the discussion by thinking about where we are in our writing lives and where we would like to be when the class is over. We’ll talk about ways to develop a personal poetry practice; topics will include strategies for creating space and time for writing (keeping creativity journals, engaging with other art forms, building creative communities, etc.) in daily life.

Part 2. An investigation of the craft of poetry:

We’ll discuss several essential craft tools and complete in-class writing exercises that relate to these discussions. Topics may include:
  - Image and figurative language.
  - Lineation and enjambment.
  - Working in open and closed forms.

Part 3. Small-group workshops:

In small groups, students will respond to some of the drafts created in the morning exercises with the goal of helping each poem realize its full potential in terms of idea, clarity, movement, resolution, etc.
**Part 4. Revision:**

We’ll discuss the difficulties, pleasures, and best practices of revision. We’ll work with the drafts we discussed in the small-group workshops and consider how we might move them forward into their next incarnations. Then we’ll think about how to make revision a sustaining part of our poetry practice.

**Part 5. Continuing the Creative Journey:**

We’ll close the day by considering what we have accomplished in our time together, and by thinking about how we want to continue to grow our own poetry practice when we leave the class.