Fall 2014

CRWR 411 Advanced Creative Writing: Poetry  (consent of instructor required) 3:10 to 6:00 LA 304
Greg Pape  Office: LA 230  Office hours: 1:30 to 3:00 Tuesday and Thursday and by appointment.

Course Description
This is an advanced workshop in which the primary texts are the student’s works-in-progress. The course will involve critical analysis of students’ drafts of poems, as well as reading and discussion of published poems. There will be a number of directed writing assignments, experiments, and exercises to encourage production and hone writing skills. The goals of the course include learning about poetic traditions, developing a set of skills and an appreciation for the process of revision, developing the ability to critique the work of peers, and assembling a portfolio of revised poems that display advanced skill levels as assessed by the instructor.

Books
The Making of a Poem, Mark Strand and Eavan Boland (recommended)
The Triggering Town, Richard Hugo, Norton, New York (recommended)
Nine Gates: Entering the Mind of Poetry, Jane Hirshfield (recommended)
Real Sofistikatshun: Essays on Poetry and Craft, Tony Hoagland (recommended)

Requirements
1) a portfolio of ten revised poems
2) regular reading and writing assignments
3) full participation in workshop and class discussion

A note on the workshop

All work turned in to class is submitted with the understanding that it is provisional work-in-progress, open to criticism. It is never appropriate to defend your work, though you may ask questions about the discussion of it after all workshop comments are in. Each student is expected to read worksheets more than once and have written comments on them, and to read all assigned work carefully and thoughtfully. All poems and written assignments must be typed or printed clearly.

In order for the workshop to run successfully each student should attend regularly and on time. More than three unexcused absences will affect your grade. Grades will be based on the above requirements, fulfilling them successfully and on time.

Plagiarism Note (University policy: “Plagiarism is defined in the UM Student Conduct Code as representing another person’s words, ideas, data, or materials as one’s own. Consequences include failing an assignment, failing a course, or even expulsion.”)

Disabilities Information: (“Qualified students with disabilities will receive appropriate accommodations. Please see the instructor, and provide a letter from your DSS Coordinator.”)

This syllabus is subject to change.
Welcome! Let’s make this a lively and interesting class everyone wants to attend.