Graduate Poetry Workshop  
CRWR 511

Karen Volkman  
Fall 2014  
Wed 12:10– 3:00  
karen.volkman@umontana.edu

Office hours:  
Tu/Th 12:30-1:30  
and by appointment  
Office: LA 113

Course Description

This workshop will focus on conversation and process. We will start out with a discussion of poems you’ve chosen to initiate a dialogue and continue in the spirit of exploration and exchange throughout the semester. We will read six recent books, discussing their varied modes and concerns. Prompts will sometimes be offered, jumping off from an aspect of these readings. For your final portfolio, you’ll have a choice between presenting unlinked pieces or a series, sequence, or serial poem.

Books

Rae Armantrout, Versed  
Mei-Mei Berssenbrugge, Hello the Roses  
Farnoosh Fathi, Great Guns  
Rusty Morrison, Beyond the Chainlink  
DA Powell, Useless Landscape  
Brian Teare, Companion Grasses

Course Requirements

Regular attendance, active participation, poetic engagement, panache, wit.

A final portfolio consisting of 5-10 pages – these can be individual poems or a sequence, series, or serial poem.

Calendar

We will be assembling a workshop schedule as we go along, figuring about four of your poems per session, with the last half hour or so devoted to discussion of that week’s book.

August 27 – Introduction. Discuss your poem selections.

September 3 – Workshop students TBA

Sept 10 – DA Powell, Useless Landscape

Sept 17 – Useless continued
Sept 24 – Farnoosh Fathi, *Great Guns*

October 1 – *Guns* continued

Oct 8 – Rae Armantrout, *Versed*

Oct 15 – *Versed* continued

Oct 22 – Brian Teare, *Companion Grasses*

Oct 29 – *Grasses* continued

November 5 -- Mei-mei Berssenbrugge, *Hello, the Roses*

Nov 12 – *Roses* continued

Nov 19 – Rusty Morrison, *Beyond the Chainlink*

Nov 26 – No class meeting

December 3 – Final Portfolios Due

December 8-12 Final Conferences

Qualified students with disabilities will receive appropriate accommodations in this course. Please come see me, and bring a letter from your DSS Coordinator.