

Patrick James

## Intro to Poetry

In this course we will discover and nurture skills that allow us to understand, enjoy and enrich our lives through poetry. Students will be required to think more critically about the disparate ways poetry communicates and operates. Throughout the semester we will use our assigned readings to talk about issues such as class, religion, gender, race, and ethics, among others, mainly through works that have defined twentieth century poetry, as well as any possible antecedents that illuminate these texts.

Requirements: One oral presentation, one critical paper, and brief writing exercises.

Required texts: *The Norton Introduction to Poetry*, Ninth Edition (ed. J. Paul Hunter, Alison Booth, Kelly J. Mays) and supplemental readings.

*Staying Alive, Real Poems for Unreal Times* (ed. Neil Astley).