

ENGL 4356 Poetic Forms and Techniques

Instructor: Martha Serpas

Straitjacket or life preserver? Something in the middle? Pattern and variation is the frame for all strong poetry and provides the tension that quickens the most powerful free verse. For our purposes, pattern means use of rhyme, meter, and stanzaic forms, and variation is a play against those expectations. We will read about the history and application of major conventional forms, discuss examples, and practice writing formal poetry.