

THE LYRIC: POETRY AND PROSE WORKSHOP

Dr Kimberly Meyer

This class will examine the lyric—a form that tries to contain and express intense emotion from the vantage point of the personal in language that veers toward the musical. The first half of the semester we will focus on various modes of lyric poetry, reading work by both ancient and contemporary practitioners of the craft. In the second half of the semester, we'll explore the emerging form of the lyric essay, which partakes of the poem in its musicality, in its interest in imagery, in its accretion often by juxtaposition or collage; and which partakes of the essay in its desire to think through ideas and in its allegiance to the actual world. In tandem with our explorations into the tradition of the lyric in both poetry and prose, students will write and regularly submit their own pieces for workshopping, and compile a final portfolio of work.