English 416-001: Poetry Workshop
Fall 2018

Professor: Brenda Cárdenas  Course: English 416-001, Lec. 22793
Pronouns: She/her/hers  Meeting Times: Tuesdays, 4:30-7:10 p.m.
Professor’s Office: Curtin 589  Classroom: Curtin Hall, Room B12
E-mail: cardenab@uwm.edu  English Dept. Office: Curtin 439, Ph.: 229-4511
Office Hours: T 2:30-4:15 p.m., Th 3:00-4:15 p.m., and by appointment

COURSE DESCRIPTION
When we write poems, we often explore various means of working within, stretching, and transcending boundaries vis-a-vis our attention to particular aspects of craft, form, and approaches to writing. With this in mind, students will draft and revise poems outside of class, as well as occasionally participate in writing exercises during class. Assignments and exercises will involve experimenting with line and syntax, patterns of sound and repetition, extended metaphor, persona, formal verse structures, ekphrasis, and collage, among other modes and approaches. Students will critique some of their peers’ poems-in-progress, offering suggestions for how their peers might alter various aspects of the poem to achieve the desired effect. Students will also read, analyze, and discuss published poems, paying attention to what the poem aims to achieve or evoke and how the poet has constructed the poem toward this end. Our culminating project will be a portfolio of revised poems with a reflective introductory essay.

PREREQUISITES
To take English 416, you must have junior standing, have satisfied the GER English Composition competency requirement (C or above in English 102 or equivalent transfer course, or EPT score of 525 or above), and have passed English 233 or English 235. If you do not meet these requirements, email me before the class starts or see me immediately on the first day.

REQUIRED TEXTS
2. PDF and online readings (usually a set of poems) as indicated on the course calendar and posted in the Content area of our course D2L site. You must print these readings and bring them to class or bring them on a laptop or electronic tablet on their due dates. Telephones are not allowed. If you print them at a campus computer lab, it will cost you 8 cents per page.
3. Print-outs of your own and your classmates’ poems and of your critiques for workshop sessions: about $7.00 total if printed in the campus computer labs at 8 cents per page.