Seminar in Poetry Writing: Poem Series
Spring, 2019

Professor: Brenda Cardenas
Course: English 816-001, Lec. 51250
Office: Curtin 589
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Office Hours: T 2:45-4:15 p.m., Th 2:45-4:15 p.m., and by appointment

Meeting Times: Thursdays, 4:30-7:10 p.m.

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COURSE DESCRIPTION
This course will focus on the creation, critique, and revision of student poems written in series that explore particular subjects/themes and/or forms/approaches (for example, a sonnet cycle; lyric sequence; or series of prose, collage or visual poems). By working in series and presenting three poems at a time for workshop, students may begin to form sections of their dissertation manuscripts or a chapbook. To this end, we will also examine and discuss published collections comprised of poem series or linked poems to analyze how the poems are juxtaposed to one another and how they might compliment, converse with, or act as counterpoint to one another. We will also consider the effects that emerge from their arrangements and combinations. With a partner, each student will present a critical response to and lead discussion on one of the required books. Students will also complete and submit a manuscript of revised poems produced during the semester with a critical introduction that explores the student’s poetics, approach and influences in creating this particular project.

REQUIRED TEXTS (Note: This is a preliminary list; it may change slightly in the near future.)

(All texts listed above are available for purchase at Woodland Pattern Book Center, 720 E. Locust St., Milwaukee, WI 53212. Ph: 414-263-5011. Hours: 11am - 8pm Tues. through Fri., and 12pm - 5pm Sat. and Sun. You may also purchase them at various online booksellers where you may find some of them at reduced prices.)

Readings posted as PDFs on D2L (Content area) are also required. Please print and bring them to class on their due dates as indicated on the calendar below.