This section of H232 is a poetry workshop that will focus on the close reading of contemporary poetry as well as the creation of students’ own original poems. The class will be split between reading weeks and workshop weeks. During reading weeks, we will be studying elements of poetic craft from The Poet’s Companion and discussing poems from the From the Fishouse anthology that exemplify these concepts. On alternate weeks, we will workshop and critique original poems written by students. We will also study four full-length collections by modern authors.

This course will be writing intensive, with writing exercises and critical responses to assigned poems due in addition to the generation of original poems. Students will be required to either memorize and recite one poem or create a broadside (a poem rendered on a medium other than the page). The final portfolio for the class will consist of the first versions of the workshopped poems as well as revised versions that take into consideration the comments and suggestions discussed in workshop. In a critical analysis that will accompany the final portfolio, students will be asked to reflect upon the writing process and discuss the choices that they made during revision.

**Reading**

Calvocoressi, Gabrielle. *Apocalyptic Swing*.
Dungy, Camille et al. *From the Fishouse: An Anthology of Poems that Sing, Rhyme, Resound, Syncopate, Alliterate, and Just Plain Sound Great*.
Jones, Rodney. *Elegy for the Southern Drawl*.
Komunyakaa, Yusef. *Dien Cai Dau*.

**Assignments**

- The memorization and recitation of a poem by a published poet **OR**
- The creation and presentation of a broadside, a poem by a published poet rendered on a medium other than paper (20% of final grade)
- Writing exercises for each chapter read in *The Poet’s Companion* (20% of final grade)
- A final portfolio, consisting of **seven** original poems, with revisions, and a 500-word analysis of each revised poem, explaining the rationale behind the changes made (50% of final grade)
- Active, vocal participation in class discussion and workshop (10% of final grade)