English 352: Forms of Poetry  M 3:00-5:30

In this class, we will study formal poetic techniques in order to learn and practice basic principles of poetic composition. We will explore different forms of poetry from English, Italian, French, African-American, and Arabic traditions. This class will give students a basic understanding of poetic forms which they can continue to draw upon as they continue to write poetry. Forms to be covered include English sonnet, Italian sonnet, villanelle, sestina, rondeau, pantoum, ghazal, blues poem, ode, elegy, and syllabic poetry (students will write examples in all these varied forms). Students will be required to memorize and recite a poem aloud as part of the class's requirements. Additional requirements: short paper on the recited poem, two quizzes, class participation.

Texts: The Poetry Dictionary, John Drury (Writers Digest Books)
The Best of the Barefoot Muse, Anna M. Evans (Barefoot Muse Press)
any rhyming dictionary