

**Dr. Kathy Lou Schultz**  
**Fall 2022, American Poetry, 7392, 8392**

**An Intensive Seminar on American Poetry; Or, Everything You Ever  
Wanted to Know About Poetry But Were Afraid to Ask**

What has poetry to do with democracy? With social justice? With national identity and belonging? How do poets respond to the news and crises of their time, while also reimagining new forms of equality? What are some of the different forms of poetry and why do poets choose them? Why do poets continue to be enthralled with the possibilities of the sonnet? How can poetry serve as a form of social documentary?

With a multi-ethnic focus and attention to gender and sexual identities, this seminar will provide an eclectic, exciting overview of some major developments in modernist and contemporary American poetry. We will study poems, works of poetics by poets, and literary criticism to explore how poetry engages with the social world.