**Try a class on reading poetry! Why?**

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| **The practical reasons:**   * Improve your **reading skills and** **vocabulary**. Short texts allow us to discuss line by line and word by word. * “Poems, perhaps even more than other texts, can sharpen your reading skills because they tend to be so compact, so fully dependent on concise expressions of feeling.”—*The Norton Introduction to Poetry* * “**Business leaders** live in multifaceted, dynamic environments. Their challenge is to take that chaos and make it meaningful and understandable. Reading and writing poetry can exercise that capacity, **improving one's ability to better conceptualize the world**.”–John Coleman, the *Harvard Business Review Blog Network* * “As [I rose] in business ... I felt I had **an enormous advantage over my colleagues** because I had a background in imagination, in language and in literature.” – Dana Gioia | **Beyond the practical:**   * If you have never enjoyed poetry or never understood it, maybe college is the time to explore and see what **intellectual and spiritual growth** might result. * “It is difficult to get the news from poems, yet men die miserably every day for lack of what is found there.” –William Carlos Williams * “Poetry is a way of taking life by the throat.” --Robert Frost * “Poetry is plucking at the heartstrings, and making music with them.” –Dennis Gabor * “A poet's work is to name the unnameable, to point at frauds, to take sides, start arguments, shape the world, and stop it going to sleep.” – Salman Rushdie * For poets, "good poems are the best teachers. To write well, it is entirely necessary to read widely and deeply." -- Mary Oliver. |

*Join us in Introduction to Poetry with Anna Mills*

English 43, MWF 10:10-11 on the Ocean Campus.   
3 units, prerequisite English 96 or placement in English 1A