

## **Poetic Personal Essays**

a class with Claudia F. Savage

October 12–November 2, 2017 (4 sessions)

Thursdays, 7:00 p.m. –9:00 p.m.

Class meets at Literary Arts, 925 SW Washington

### **Week 1:**

Introductions

Using the essays and poetry of Dan Beachy-Quick and Khadijah Queen, we'll dive right into the way we share our personal stories and how various poetic techniques (repetition, metaphor, spacing, and pace) help us articulate memories that sear and sing. Exercises given to craft your first essay using these techniques.

### **Week 2:**

Sharing of first essays

Using the essays and poetry of Ocean Vuong and Patti Smith, we will explore the way poetry helps us articulate origin, ancestry, and myth. You'll begin to draft a second essay in class with additional tips for writing during the week on your own.

### **Week 3:**

Sharing of second essays

Using the essays and poetry of Maggie Nelson, we will explore the way poetry helps us articulate the state of our bodies and the bodies of others. You'll draft a third essay in class with additional tips for writing during the week on your own, either working on the previous essays you've created or writing something new.

### **Week 4:**

We will share our work. Claudia will offer insights for further reading and revision.