Close Reading of American Poetry

ENGL 435A:01; Brichford
August 15-October 3  TR: 12:30-1:20

This course will concentrate on very close reading of a limited number of mid-twentieth-century (1920’s-1970’s) American poems, following, in a general way, the classic French method of explication de textes. Each class will deal with only one fairly short poem, with a “reading” of the poem presented by a student and a critique by another. What is lacking in volume of reading will be made up for in intensity of attention and extensiveness of speculation—expectations along these lines will be very high.

Prerequisite: ENGL 205 with a “C” or better.