

**Muskingum University**

**EDUC 580 – N2085**

***Poems Are Teachers* - Book Study**

**Date and Time:** November 9 2024 – April 12 2025

**Location:** Independent Reading/Reflection sessions - 2 Virtual Zoom Meetings

**Credit:** One graduate semester hour

**Partnership:** Collaboration with The Literacy Connection

**Participants:** Central Ohio Educators

**Instructor:** Barb Hansen, Interim Director of Graduate Teacher Education

Professor, Muskingum University, New Concord< OH 43762  
740-826-8032     bhansen@muskingum.edu

Candidates will read, reflect, and discuss *Poems Are Teachers* authored by Amy Ludwig VanDerwater. The author declares “*Poems wake us up, keep us company, and remind us that our world is small.*” She has authored a practical book designed for every classroom teacher. Each lesson exploration includes three poems, one by a contemporary adult poet and two by students in grades 2 through 8, which serve as models to illustrate how poetry teaches writers to:

- Find ideas
- Choose perspective and point of view
- Structure exists
- Play with language.
- Craft beginnings and endings.
- Choose titles

## Course Objectives

- To provide professional development opportunities for Dublin City Schools educators.
- To promote a variety of best practices, theories, strategies, models, and resources to classroom educators specific to the usefulness of poetry and how it intersects with creativity.
- Restore teacher agency.
- To enhance professional collaboration.

## Topics

- Examples and explanations of how artful teaching of poetry is integrated into reading instruction and how it can increase a student's motivation and positive attitudes towards reading.
- Finding Ideas
- Vocabulary
- Choosing perspective and point of view
- Learning about the value of the "tight space" of poetry.
- Strengthening student writing through learning the craft techniques found in poetry.

## Course Requirements/ Assignments

Participants will read the outlined chapters and keep a reflection journal.

- You do not have to be applying for graduate credit to participate in the book study. All are welcome!
- There will be 2 scheduled, virtual Zoom meetings to discuss and develop classroom applications among participants. January 23rd - 8:00pm April 24th - 8:00pm

## Suggested Reading & Reflection Schedule

Reflection #1: November 9, 2024 1. Learn to Find Writing Ideas from Poems

Reflection #2: December 14, 2024 2. Learn to Choose Perspectives and Point of View from Poems

Reflection #3: January 11, 2025 3. Learn to Structure Texts from Poems

*Virtual Zoom Chat: January 25th at 8:00 - 8:45pm (Link will be sent to your email)*

Reflection #4: February 8, 2025 4. Learn to Play with Language from Poems

Reflection #5: March 8, 2025 5. Learn to Craft Beginnings and Endings from Poems

Reflection #6: April 12, 2025 6. Learn to Select Titles from Poems

*Virtual Zoom Chat: April 24th at 8:00pm - 8:45pm (Link will be sent to your email)*

If you are interested in participating in the Literacy Connection book study, please email Anita Stratton by **Nov. 9<sup>th</sup>**. Anita Stratton's Email: [stratton.anita@gmail.com](mailto:stratton.anita@gmail.com)

Complete all readings and a reflection response per session. (75 points)

Collectively submit all reflection responses. (25 points)

Please forward the above assignments to: Barb Hansen, [bhansen@muskingum.edu](mailto:bhansen@muskingum.edu)

All assignments must be received by June 1..

Please note any assignment submitted after the deadline will receive an automatic grade reduction.

### **Grading Scale**

A 94-100 points, A- 90-93 points, B+ 87-89 points, B 83-86 points, B- 80-82 point

Please note: To obtain an official transcript with course grade documented:

<https://muskingum.edu/registrar>



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### Professional Development (580) Registration Form

#### CONTACT INFORMATION:

Date: ..... Student ID#: ..... SSN: .....  
Last Name: ..... First Name: .....  
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#### COURSE INFORMATION:

Fall 2023/Spring EDUC 580-

Term: 2024 Course#: N1998 Location: Shale Meadows ES  
Course Title: Artfully Teaching the Science of Reading Book Study Credit Hours: 1  
Independent Readings-Nov. 1, 2023, Dec.9, 2023, Jan.13,2024, Feb. 10, 2024, Workshop Capstone  
Days: March 9, 2024 and Workshop Capstone Meeting-April 6, 2024 Time: 8:00-4:30

#### PAYMENT INFORMATION: (Muskingum professional development course tuition is \$130/semester hour of credit):

Total amount due: \$130 X 1 credit hours = \$ 130.00  
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