## **POETRY FOR PHYSICISTS** LTEN 30 / PHYS 30 (810622 & 810623)

Tu.Th 9:30-10:50am (SERF 383)

Professor Rae Armantrout (LIT) and Professor Brian Keating (PHYS)



This course is a collaboration between the departments of Literature and Physics. We will examine the unlikely intersections between physical science and the arts - specifically poetry. Physicists sometimes speak of the beauty of their equations. What do they mean by this? Is it the same sort of beauty we might find in a poem or other work of art? We will discuss such questions while reading general (accessible) essays by physicists such as Brian Greene, Richard Feynman, and Michio Kaku along with poetry (by poets ranging from Shakespeare and Keats to the most contemporary) which somehow addresses, exemplifies or complicates aspects of scientific thought. Students will respond to the lectures and readings with two presentations, and two exams.

Prerequisite(s): Completion of college writing requirement.