

Journal of Progress

Spring Semester 2014:

- Selected advisor: Susan Facknitz
- Selected readers: Richard Gaughran, Paul Bogard, and Jerry Nava
- Read weekly documents Susan assigned on BlackBoard
- Met weekly with Susan to discuss readings
- Participated in poetry events in the JMU and Harrisonburg communities
 - Wendell Berry Reading, February 20th, Little Grill Collective
 - Opener and reader
 - Starry Nights Harrisonburg Reading, March 28th, Edith J. Carrier Arboretum
 - Poetry judge and reader
 - Rocktown Poetry Circle: Celebration of National Poetry Month, April 16th, Greenberry's Café
 - Reader

Summer 2014 (Beginning May 19th):

- Visited farms:
 - Shine and Rise, Eastern Shore of VA
 - Perennial Roots, Eastern Shore of VA
 - Polyface Farms, Swoope, VA
- Worked on farms:
 - Mattawoman Creek Farms- the month of June
 - Pickett's Harbor Farms- July-August

- Conducted interviews with:
 - Stuart of Perennial Roots Farm
 - Sam of Collicello Farms
 - Rick and Janice of Mattawoman Creek Farms
 - Jay of Shine and Rise Farm
 - Tammie and W.T. of Pickett's Harbor Farms
 - Joel Salatin of Polyface Farms
- Lived out the routine I have outlined for myself Monday through Saturday:
 - Woke up early to read and write
 - Worked on the farm all day, wrote as I worked
 - Returned home to revise and read

Fall 2014:

- Met weekly with Susan
- Took ENG 494: Advanced Poetry Writing with Laurie Kutchins
- Wrote poems and essays for project
- Participated in and viewed poetry events in the JMU and Harrisonburg communities
 - Def Poetry Jam, August 7th, Festival Ballroom, JMU
 - Furious Flower Poetry Conference, September 24th-27th, JMU
 - Rocktown Poetry Circle, October 15th, Ruby's Lounge
 - Reader
 - Andrea Hollander reading, November 10th, Taylor Hall, JMU
 - JMUSE Café Poetry Reading, November 19th, Rose Library, JMU

- Reader

- Visited farms:

- Avalon Farm, October 24th, Harrisonburg
- United Poultry Concerns, November 29th, Machipongo, VA

Spring 2015

- Susan Facknitz takes medical leave, announces retirement
- Select new advisor: Laurie Kutchins
- Select new readers: Elizabeth Hoover, Richard Gaughran, and Paul Bogard
- Met weekly with Laurie
- Took ENG 484: Poetic Forms
- Took ENG 494: Food Writing
- Wrote essays and poems for project
- Participated in and viewed poetry events in the JMU and Harrisonburg communities
 - Word. A show uniting writing and visual art, February 5th, Spitzer Art Center
 - Ross Gay Reading, April 1st, Taylor Hall, JMU
 - Arboretum Poetry Reading, April 21st, JMU

- Reader

- Attended Sweet Briar Creative Writing Conference March 26th-29th
- Visited farms:
 - Weaver Poultry Farm, March 18th, West Virginia

- New Community Project Cow Share and Muddy Bike Farm, March 30th
and April 1st

Draft Timeline:

- March 6, 2015- sent first draft to readers
- April 6, 2015- sent second draft to readers for approval
- April 8, 2015- submitted final draft to Honors Program