Heather Dubrow — John D. Boyd, SJ, Chair in the Poetic Imagination at Fordham University — is the author of six scholarly books, most recently *The Challenges of Orpheus: Lyric Poetry and Early Modern England* (Johns Hopkins). Her first book, *Genre* appeared in 1982. Dubrow’s collection of poetry *Forms and Hollows* was published by Word Press, Cherry Grove collections. Her other publications include a co-edited collection of essays, two chapbooks of poetry, an edition of *As You Like It*, articles on early modern literature and on teaching, as well as poems in numerous journals. Among Dubrow’s interdisciplinary academic interests is the relationship between the visual and literary arts. Her personal interests include film, cooking, and making bad puns.

**Genesis has been a source of debate and on occasion dissension among literary critics, experts in composition and rhetoric, students of film, linguists, and social scientists. This course will focus mainly on literary texts, especially instances of pastoral, romance, and the sonnet, but will also devote attention to the centrality of genre to many types of discourse.**

Among the questions we will explore together: Who creates and defines a genre, and to what ends? What are the potentialities and perils of extending the concept to, say, politics or social institutions like Thanksgiving dinner? How do genres structure various forms of social interaction? How should we approach this subject in the classroom?