ENGLISH LITERATURE (ENLT)

The courses listed on this page are exclusive to the LPS BAAS degree (https://lpsonline.sas.upenn.edu/features/what-bachelor-applied-arts-and-sciences-degree/) and LPS Online certificates (https://lpsonline.sas.upenn.edu/academics/certificates/).

ENLT 100 Ways of Reading
Activity: Online Course
1.0 Course Unit

ENLT 120 Writing about Literature and Culture
Activity: Online Course
1.0 Course Unit

ENLT 140 History in Eight Books
This course provides a broad overview of the history of literature in English from the tenth century to the twentieth. Rather than aim for complete coverage of a thousand years of literary production, we will spend each week delving deeply into one text from a particular historical moment, reading eight works in total. We will familiarize ourselves with literary texts – such as A Midsummer Night’s Dream, Leaves of Grass, and Beloved – that range widely in form, genre, and thematic concern; we will examine how these texts negotiate their sociocultural contexts instead of merely reproducing them; and we will practice how to ask productive questions about literature. Assignments will include regular discussion posts, close reading exercises, a critical bibliography, and a final paper.
Taught by: Mariah Min
Activity: Online Course
1.0 Course Unit

ENLT 160 Modern and Contemporary US Poetry
In this fast-paced introductory course, students read and discuss a wide range of modern and contemporary American poets, beginning with Emily Dickinson and Walt Whitman and ending with 21st-century avant-garde poets like Tracie Morris. Questions central to this course include “How does experimental poetry help us understand the transition between modernism and postmodernism?” and “What is the relationship between experimental poetry and experimental teaching?” The poems and poets we study challenge students to read critically and think differently about what a poem is, about what art can be and about what poetry can teach us about reading, writing and learning. Students do not need to have any prior knowledge of poetry or poetics. The course operates primarily as a discussion. Rather than attending lectures, students participate in web-based discussions of the poems, accessible in text, audio and video formats. Requirements include active participation in the online discussion forums, in addition to five short papers, quizzes, creative exercises and a comprehensive final examination.
Taught by: Anna Strong Safford
Also Offered As: CRWR 160
Activity: Online Course
1.0 Course Unit

ENLT 200 Topics in English Literature
Topics in English Literature. Topics offered will differ.
One-term course offered either term
Activity: Online Course
1.0 Course Unit

ENLT 300 Radical Literature
In 2018, Dan Rather on the left and Nikki Haley on the right claimed that dissent is As American as apple pie. This course examines the roots of that statement and the repercussions of dissent on national identity and literary production. Class readings and discussions address dissenters who are known for their political positions, such as Thomas Paine and Frederick Douglass, and those who known for their dissent from literary norms, such as Emily Dickinson and Walt Whitman. Explore questions of literary style, its connection to politics, and how dissenting politics call for rethinking literary norms while also connecting to time-honored literary values. Through discussions, papers, and a research project, you can discover what values Americans share around political and stylistic dissent that continue to resonate today.
Activity: Online Course
1.0 Course Unit