

ENGL 3105

Dr. Andrew Donnelly

TR 9:40-11:05am

### **Law & Literature**

What do literary texts tell us about the law and what do legal texts tell us about literature? This course will explore how literature represents legal issues, contemplates problems of morality, and challenges ideas about justice. With a focus on U.S. legal history, and American authors such as Edgar Allan Poe, Herman Melville, Charles Chesnutt, and Louise Erdrich, this course is designed especially for students interested in how literary works think about politics, rights, justice, race, and constitutional issues; for aspiring writers; or for those preparing for careers in the law or criminal justice.

Texts:

- Poe, "The Purloined Letter"
- Melville, *Billy Budd*
- Chesnutt, *The Marrow of Tradition*
- Erdrich, *The Round House*