

Literary Heritage: Introduction to Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgendered and Queer Literature

In this section of Literary Heritage, we will read texts from a variety of time periods and cultures, representing the literary modes of poetry, fiction, drama, and creative nonfiction with a focus on LGBTQ Literature. We will read and discuss both canonical and noncanonical LGBTQ texts. The course will explore topics such as defining LGBTQ literature, the conversation between the literary canon and LGBTQ literature, and the differences between and among lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgendered, and queer literature, and the changes in LGBTQ writing over time. The course will feature visits from contemporary and local authors (via skype and in person).

Possible Reading Selections:

James Baldwin, *Giovanni's Room*

Patricia Highsmith, *Price of Salt* or *Carol*

Jeanette Winterson, *Oranges Are Not the Only Fruit*

Alison Bechdel, *Fun Home*

Ellyanna Christina Hall, *Following Butterflies: A Novel*

Tony Kushner, *Angels in America*

Justin Torres, *We the Animals*

Rita Mae Reese, *The Book of Hulga*

Danez Smith, *[insert] Boy*

Nikky Finney, *Head Off & Split*

Selections from:

The Collection: Short Fiction from the Transgender Vanguard edited by Tom Léger and Riley MacLeod

Troubling the Line: Trans and Genderqueer Poetry and Poetics edited by TC Tolbert and Tim Trace

Best Bi Short Stories: Bisexual Fiction, Sheela Lambert, editor

Collected LGBT poetry at <https://www.poets.org/poetsorg/lgbtq-poetry>

And other stories, poems, essays from contemporary writers provided via PDF by instructor.