

**2201.017 Literary Heritage:
Introduction to Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer Literature
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Course Description:

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).

Texts:

James Baldwin, *Giovanni's Room*
Alison Bechdel, *Fun Home*
Ellyanna Christina Hall, *Following Butterflies: A Novel*
Larry Kramer, *The Normal Heart*
Justin Torres, *We the Animals*
Rita Mae Reese, *The Book of Hulga*

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>

Learning Outcomes: Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Identify basic literary forms and define by definition and example literary terms.
- Identify basic terms and themes related to LGBTQ literature.
- Recognize the role of language in shaping and reflecting human experience.
- Describe major literary figures, movements, and styles within their social and historical contexts.
- Orally and in writing identify, defend, and/or challenge the theme, subject, tone, audience, etc., of a literary work.
- Synthesize multiple perspectives and clarify one's own view by evaluating ideas presented in major cultural texts.
- Demonstrate the ability to critically engage poetic, dramatic, narrative, and non-traditional literary texts.
- Employ the conventions of Standard Written English and MLA style.