

CANG 9218 - NOVELS AND NOVELLAS

J. Augustyn

Objectives

This course explores diverse approaches to reading classics of the Occidental literary tradition and develops students' interpretative skills in English. More specifically, we will examine novels and novellas from the origins of the latter in the Italian Renaissance tale to the evolution of the English and American novel. Each work will help us pose theoretical and cultural questions about issues such as authority in fiction, the role of the arts in the literary text, gender, identity, and the limits of critical interpretation.

Course Contents

A core syllabus taken from works by Boccaccio, Austen, James, Woolf, Mansfield, Cather and Forster among others will be accompanied by short excerpts of literary criticism and screen adaptations. This course will be conducted as a seminar, which means an emphasis on group discussions. Careful reading and active engagement in these discussions are essential. Each week, a pair of students will give a 10-15 minute presentation. The instructor will help you perfect your style, grammar, and idea development. Special emphasis will be placed on reading comprehension, as well as oral and written production.