

Highlights of Canadian Literature

The course is designed to acquaint the students with a selection of representative texts of Canadian literature in all of its main genres. The reading of the primary texts and the discussions of their thematic and aesthetic characteristics will lead to the identification and understanding of the basic distinctive features of Canadian national literature, and of their relation to the country's historical and cultural development. Class discussions will focus on analyzing the dominant themes of Canadian literature as represented in chosen examples. Students will be lead to the understanding of what Canadian literature stands for, how it is different from other national literatures written in English, and what historical and cultural processes have resulted in its constitution.

The main topics will include:

- the birth and rise of Canadian national literature
- constitutive genres of Canadian literature
- Canada's "First Nations" and their writing
- the English and the French in Canadian literature
- multiculturalism and Canadian literature