

Fall 2019 Course Descriptions

Instructor: Sara DiCaglio

Course: ENGL 303

Title: Approaches to English Studies: Reproducing Literature

Description: What is the purpose of literature for society? Does literature mirror (or reproduce) our world, or is its function something different entirely? This course introduces students to the English major through a focused examination of the topic of reproduction across scales (from human to world, cells to technologies, printing presses to the cloud). We will look at a variety of genres--contemporary fiction and science fiction, poetry, rhetoric, and film/tv—in order to understand the reproductive function of literature itself, asking questions about biological, material, and historical reproductions. Because this is an introductory course, students will be introduced to a wide view of the major through an examination of literature, rhetoric, and creative writing, helping students to find their interests within the major itself.

Proposed Readings: Readings may include: *Frankenstein*--Mary Shelley; *Never Let Me Go*--Kazuo Ishiguro; *Dawn*--Octavia Butler; *Revising the Storm*--Geoffrey Davis; *Under the Feet of Jesus*--Helena Maria Viramontes; *The Handmaid's Tale*--Margaret Atwood; *Battlestar Galactica* (TV Series)