Literature and Writing Minor

The Minor in Literature and Writing enables students of all majors to build a knowledge and skill base in both the study of literature and the practice of writing, choosing five courses (or a total of 15 credits) from a broad range that includes literature, writing, and theory/criticism courses. Writing majors who wish to enroll in the Literature and Writing Minor will simply substitute additional literature and/or criticism and theory courses for the writing component of the minor. The minor may be declared at any time; courses already taken can be counted. Please contact the Literature and Writing Minor coordinator Emily Beall (ebeall@pratt.edu) for more information.

How to Minor in Literature and Writing

The Minor in Literature and Writing gives the student an opportunity to complement his or her major field of study with a deeper knowledge of creative writing, literature, and criticism. The minor offers a broad range of courses across the categories of literature, writing, and literary theory/criticism. We strongly suggest that students take at least one course in each category. The courses in literature and writing engage the student both as reader and writer. These activities are inseparable: as literary theorist Roland Barthes put it, when we read, we “write” the text. Students will practice critical and creative writing in a variety of genres. Together, the courses provide an exposure to all the subjects that constitute the field of literary studies at present.

Writing majors who wish to enroll in the Literature and Writing Minor will simply substitute additional literature and/or criticism and theory courses for the writing component of the minor.

You may register for the minor at any point during your undergraduate career at Pratt, and courses you’ve already taken can be counted towards it. Any section of HMS 201A counts toward the minor. Since declared minors are guaranteed registration in the relevant courses, it is to your advantage to declare the minor early on. If you register for
the minor and decide later to opt out, there is no penalty. Please see the Minor Coordinator to declare the minor.

Completing the minor means submitting a Qualifying Paper/Project—generally a paper or project you’ve done for one of the classes that count towards the minor, which you feel represents your best work. The faculty member serving as Minor Coordinator will advise on any recommended revisions if necessary. You may submit a qualifying paper/project at any time, before or after you’ve completed the coursework for the minor.

Although it is not required, students may choose to concentrate on one of the three areas, or to build a concentration in a subfield defined by genre (for example, poetry or the novel), by area (for example, American or world literature), or by topical focus.

For a list of courses that count toward the minor, please see below. If you believe that another course not listed here should count, please contact the minor coordinator. Relevant Independent Study courses (of one, two, or three credits) can count toward the minor with approval.

**Courses**

Take five courses (or 15 credits) to complete the Minor. At least 50% of credits must be in courses 300 or higher; no 100-level courses may count toward the minor.

**200 LEVEL COURSES**

**HMS 201A Literary and Critical Studies II** (3 cr.)

**HMS-203A World Literature Survey I** (3 cr.)

**HMS-203B World Literature Survey II** (3 cr.)

**HMS-203C International Novels Survey** (3 cr.)

**HMS-205A Survey of African-American Culture** (3 cr.)

**HMS-208A Medieval Literature and Culture: A Survey** (3 cr.)
HMS-208B Early Modern Literature and Culture: A Survey (3 cr.)
HMS-215 Writing for the Professional (3 cr.)
HMS-225A Introduction to Journalism (3 cr.)
HMS-225B Introduction to Feature Writing (3 cr.)
HMS-230A Literary Criticism and Theory Survey (3 cr.)
HMS-231B Introduction to the New Testament and its Cultural Setting (3 cr.)
HMS-232A Horror and Monstrosity (3 cr.)

300 AND 400 LEVEL COURSES

HMS-300A Children's Literature (3 cr.)
HMS-300B The Literature of Popular Culture (3 cr.)
HMS-300D Satire (3 cr.)
HMS-301A Modernist Literatures (3 cr.)
HMS-301B Modernist Drama (3 cr.)
HMS-304B Perspective on U.S. Literature (3 cr.)
HMS-308A Shakespeare (3 cr.)
HMS-310S Special Topics in Poetry and Poetics (3 cr.)
HMS-311B Detective Fiction (3 cr.)
HMS-320A Poetry Writing (3 cr.)
HMS-320B Fiction Writing (3 cr.)
HMS-320C Screenwriting II (3 cr.)
HMS-320D Screenwriting I (3 cr.)
HMS-320S Creative Writing (3 cr.)
HMS-325C Reporting the City (3 cr.)

HMS-330A Freud and Lacan (3 cr.)

HMS-400A The Comic Apocalypse (3 cr.)

HMS-404A Democratic Vistas: Issues in Mid-19th-C Am Lit (3 cr.)

HMS-404C Immigration, Diaspora and Citizenship Currents of the American 1950'S and 60'S (3 cr.)

HMS-404D Portraying The American Girl in Literature and Visual Art (3 cr.)

HMS-404E Photography in American Literature (3 cr.)

HMS-405A Roots of the Harlem Renaissance (3 cr.)

HMS-405S Special Topics in African American Literature and Culture (3 cr.)

HMS-410S: Special Topics in Poetry/Poetics (3 cr.)

HMS-430A Critical Theory for Artists and Writers (3 cr.)

HMS-430D Psychoanalysis and Art (3 cr.)

HMS-430S Special Topics in Literary/Cultural Theory (3 cr.)

HMS-431A Modernism and Postmodernism (3 cr.)

HMS-432S Special Topics in Gender Studies (3 cr.)

HMS-491A The Artists’ Book (3 cr.)