



## Philosophy & Literature (Philosophy 41)

Fall 2018

Tuesdays & Thursdays  
12:45p-2:10p

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Imagining life without books is like imagining a tray of cupcakes without icing. To this extent, Literature invites philosophical reflection in two broad ways.

First, literature serves as an awesome example of philosophy in action. Think about it, like characters in a novel we move in and out of others' lives as we move in and out of life itself.

Second, the experience of reading literature— especially when one becomes acquainted with a variety of literary styles, genres, and authors—has a way

of reflecting back upon itself and nudging us to ask what literature is in a deeper sense. In this case, asking questions such as:

Does literature mirror life? Or does it provide an alternative reality of its own? Is it irrational to feel emotions for fictional characters? Can we acquire knowledge by reading poems or novels?

So why does Sartre say, "hell is other people"? Sign up for this course and find out!