LITERATURE AND ENVIRONMENT SPECIALIZATION

The English Department encourages upper-division students with particular literary/critical interests to pursue them formally by selecting an area of specialization. How does literature affect environmental values and practices? Can a novel or poem make a more sustainable world? The Literature and Environment Specialization explores links between culture, science, and politics that are especially pressing in our current era. Courses in the specialization focus on the ways in which literature shapes and responds to a variety of environmental concerns, from animal welfare to pollution to global warming. Students who complete any four (4) upper division elective courses devoted to the Literature and the Environment will satisfy the specialization requirement – (note one lower division elective is allowed)

A senior seminar, English 197, in Literature and Environment is advisable but not mandatory.

COURSE LIST 2022-2023

Fall 2022:

ENGL 22 Introduction to Literature and the Environment (Hiltner)
ENGL 192SS Science Fiction Short Stories (Jue)

Winter 2023:

ENGL 23 The Climate Crisis, Part I: What It Is and What Each of Us Can Do About It (Hiltner)
ENGL 141 MC: Narrating Migrant Ecologies (Amin-Hong)
ENGL 197 Comedy and Ecology (Shewry)

Spring 2023:

ENGL 24 Introduction to Literature and the Environment, Part II: Global Perspectives (Hiltner)
ENGL 128AF Animal Fictions (Samolsky)
ENGL 147OM Ocean Media (Jue)
ENGL 165AE The Graphic Novel: Animals and Ecology (Samolsky)
ENGL 192FE Fantasy and Ecology (Shewry)

Students can petition to have other courses in the English Department (not on this list) count towards the specialization, if the other courses have sufficient connection to literature & environment.