This course will examine the works of major women writers of France, Italy, England and America within the specific social, historical and cultural contexts and sites in which these texts were written and produced. We will read chronologically beginning in the Middle Ages and ending in the contemporary period. We will examine how women authors used and transformed literary genres made popular by male authors (love poetry, epistle, treatise, dialogue, autobiography, novel). This is a selection of some of the authors we will read: Julian of Norwich, Margery Kempe, Queen Elizabeth I, Anne Bradstreet, Veronica Franco, Mary Wollstonecraft, Emily Dickinson, Virginia Woolf, Charlotte Perkins Gilman, Sojourner Truth, Zora Neale Hurston, Kate Chopin, Margaret Atwood, and Maxine Hong Kingston.

This course fulfills the GE-B Humanistic Inquiry and University Diversity requirement.

COLT L/M/CT Track: This is a Literature Concentration Course.

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