

# Reading for Pleasure

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ENGL 200: Foundations of Literary Study  
Dr. Rose Casey | Fall 2026

Why do we read? How and why is reading pleasurable? What might the pleasures of reading tell us about the value of literary study, both for ourselves and the societies we live in? “Reading for Pleasure” explores these questions as a way to build the foundational skills of literary analysis and affirm the value of studying imaginative writing.

We’ll study a range of twenty-first century literary genres to explore these questions. Likely texts include Alison Bechdel’s *Fun Home* (graphic novel), Helen Oyeyemi’s *Gingerbread* (novel), Ken Liu’s “The Paper Menagerie” (short story), Isabella Hammad’s *Enter Ghost* (novel), Agha Shahid Ali’s “Muharram in Srinagar” (poem), Jamaica Kincaid’s *Annie John* (novel), and Binyavanga Wainana’s *One Day I Will Write about this Place* (memoir).