



UNSETTLING THE HUMAN

IN CONTEMPORARY LITERATURE AND THEORY

ENGL 200: Foundations of Literary Study
Dr. Rose Casey | Fall 2022

What does it mean to be human? How has the idea of humanity been mobilized to achieve equality, equity, and inclusion? How has this concept simultaneously been used to exclude, denigrate, and deny?

What differentiates humans from other forms of species life? Are new technologies challenging the category of the human? And what purchase does literary study have on examining this concept in ways that other disciplines cannot?

We'll study twenty-first century novels, poetry, short stories, and a graphic novel to address these questions. Likely texts include Claudia Rankine's *Citizen: An American Lyric* (poetry), Kazuo Ishiguro's *Never Let Me Go* (novel), and Emil Ferris's *My Favorite Thing is Monsters* (graphic novel).