

**St. John's University Department of English
Summer 2017: Graduate Course Offerings Online**

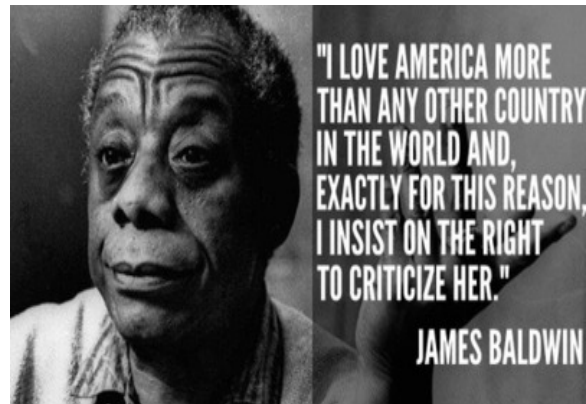
Summer session 1: May 30 – June 29

English 380: Topics in early Modern Studies: Tyranny and Poetry

Dr. Steve Mentz (mentzs@stjohns.edu)

How can literature respond to tyranny? What is the role of literary culture, and individual poets, novelists, or playwrights, when the state totters?

Core texts will include Shakespeare's *Macbeth* and selections from Milton's *Paradise Lost*, the greatest anti-tyrannical poem in English. We will also read anti-tyranny writings including the *Defense of Liberty against Tyrants* (1579) and Yale historian Timothy Snyder's *On Tyranny: Twenty Lessons from the Twentieth Century* (2017). The online class will meet once in person in Rowaytan, CT, to see Shakespeare on the Sound's outdoor production of *Macbeth* (June 15 – July 2).



Summer Session II: July 5 – August 8

Eng 755: Studies in 20th Century African American Literature and Culture: Thinking While Black: Writers and Activists of the 1960s and 1970s

Dr. Robert Fanuzzi (fanuzzir@stjohns.edu)

University curricula, graduate specializations, and campus activism continue to be shaped by the trailblazing work of four African-American authors of the US civil rights era: James Baldwin, Amiri Baraka, Toni Cade Bambara, and June Jordan. This course reads the signature works of these authors as both lasting artistic expressions and field- and institution-altering activism that permanently changed the study of literature. With the publication of *The Fire Next Time*, Baldwin, the subject of a new documentary, created a "para-university" of student groups and social activists, while Baraka, Bambara, and Jordan brought African-American studies and black feminism into the academy.

For information, please contact Lana Umali umalil@stjohns.edu or Steve Mentz, Director of Graduate Studies mentzs@stjohns.edu

Registration begins on April 5, 2017