In 1913, the French writer Charles Péguy observed that “The world has changed less since the time of Jesus Christ than it has in the last thirty years.” The technological, economic, social, scientific, and mass communication advances to which Péguy refers are today known as modernity. The literary movement which confronted, deprecated, and sometimes celebrated these changes of modernity is known as modernism. This course will explore the nature of literary modernism through careful reading of a variety of modernist poetry and prose works, with emphasis on the poetry. From time to time, we will also compare the Anglo-American modernists with their somewhat more radical avant-garde contemporaries on the continent, particularly some members of the anti-art movements of Futurism and Dadaism.

Prose works we will read include James Joyce’s *A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man* (1916), E. E. Cummings’ *The Enormous Room* (1922), and Virginia Woolf’s *Mrs. Dalloway* (1925). We will also read poems by W. B Yeats, Gertrude Stein, Guillaume Apollinaire, Ezra Pound, Marianne Moore, T. S. Eliot, H.D., Mina Loy, E. E. Cummings, and Langston Hughes.