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EDITORIAL POLICY

College Literature: A Journal of Critical Literary Studies is dedicated to publishing original and innovative scholarly research across the various periods, intellectual fields, and geographical locations that comprise the changing discipline of Anglophone and comparative literary studies. The journal is committed to the renewal of critique as a historically determinate, self-reflexive, and socially substantive practice, which in resisting “empathy with the victor” (Benjamin) remains perpetually dissatisfied with each new consensus. We are convinced that literature remains a significant locus for such a renewal, since in seeking to establish a space “outside” normative social values, literary (and other) texts continually stage and restage the discursive, disciplinary, and institutional limits that enable such norms, and so work to reveal critique’s complicity with them. In interrogating critical practice, the journal aims to investigate its involvement in broader parameters of public debate organized by such enduring (though mutating) political demarcations as those between the private and the public, the national and the global, or indeed between the cultural and the political itself.

College Literature welcomes submissions from across the range of scholarship in literary studies. It invites studies that explore how changing structures of social experience (such as the transnational reach of culture, or the transgressive power of sexuality, or the excessive potential of the past over contemporary interpretation) call on us to rethink existing critical assumptions, conceptual terms, and historical frameworks. Alongside work that reconsiders “traditional” or “conventional” critical orthodoxies, *College Literature* also welcomes scholarship that questions the “new orthodoxies” that developed as radical critiques of those existing positions but that are also embedded within specific intellectual trajectories and historical configurations of experience.

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