The Politics Of Literature Dissenting Essays On The Teaching Of English

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COURSE OUTLINE Part 1: What is literature?
In his introductory essay to the major tracts of the Webster-Ward debate, Allen G. Debus outlines the particular confrontation that was taking place between the orthodox and heterodox forces of the Scientific Revolution and the deep interest each had in education. He is particularly interested in the "chemists" and attempts to correct earlier historical treatments which derided several of the educational reformers for their belief in magic and chemistry; Science and Education in the Seventeenth Century, The Webster-Ward Debate, London, New York, 1970.
"Politics and the English Language" (1946) is an essay by George Orwell that criticised the "ugly and inaccurate" written English of his time and examines the connection between political orthodoxies and the debasement of language. The essay focuses on political language, which, according to Orwell, "is designed to make lies sound truthful and murder respectable, and to give an appearance of solidity to pure wind". Orwell believed that the language used was necessarily vague or meaningless because it Academic literary critics teach in literature departments and publish in academic journals, and more popular critics publish their criticism in broadly circulating periodicals such as the New York Times Book Review, the New York Review of Books, the London Review of Books, The Nation, and The New Yorker. Related to other forms of literary criticism, the history of the book is a field of interdisciplinary enquiry drawing on the methods of bibliography, cultural history, history of literature, and media theory. Principally concerned with the production, circulation, and reception of texts and their material forms, book history seeks to connect forms of textuality with their material aspects. Dissent, rather than a disruption of a state of order, can be considered a catalyst of change, an awakening against conformity, a protest against convention. Once this is contextualised, the world around us makes more sense. This notion of politics skews the attention of politics away from the individual and towards a collective representation of society. Some scholars argued that revolutions enjoy a "marginal existence" in international relations literature, a vacuum now mitigated by a plethora of reflections on how phenomena like the Arab Spring or the Euromaidan revolution (also referred to as the Revolution of Dignity) inferred on the international system. In her essay On Violence, Hannah Arendt treats bureaucracy as an alienating variable in the nation state.