

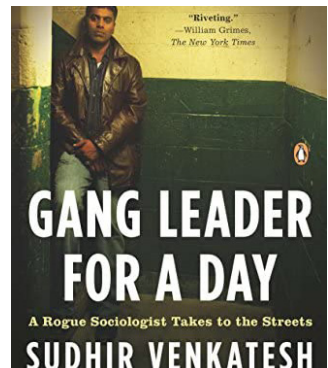
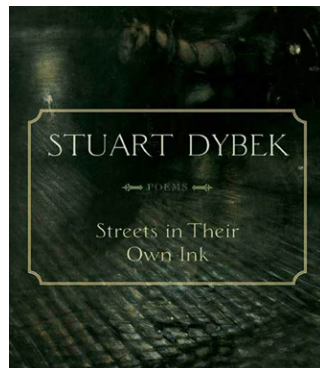
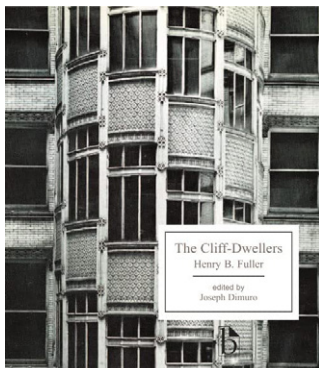
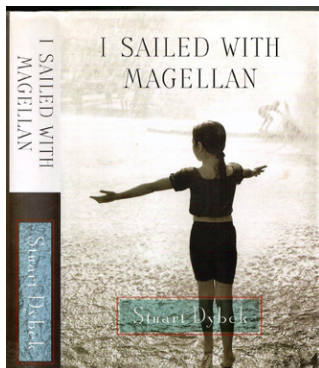
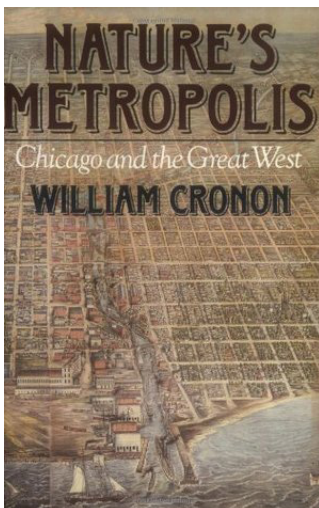
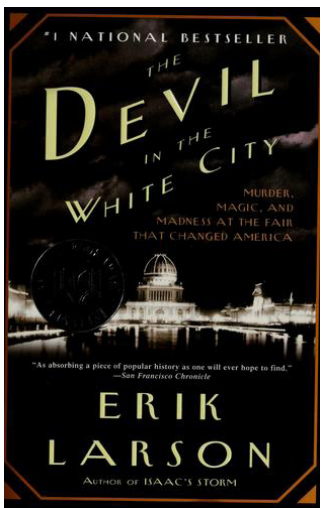
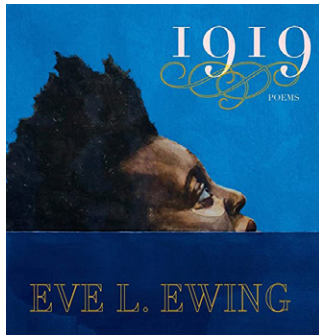
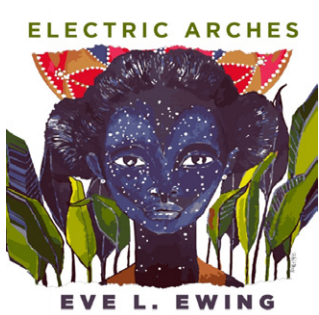
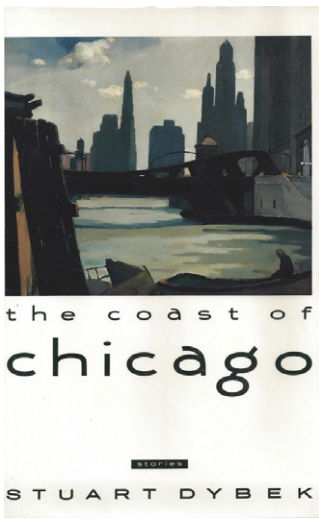
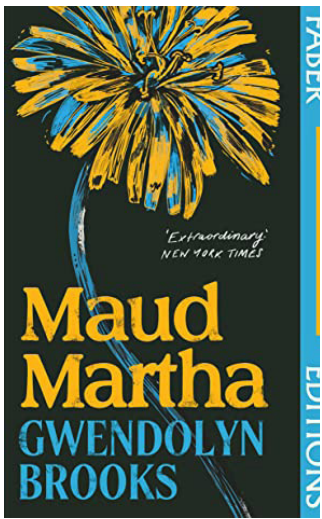
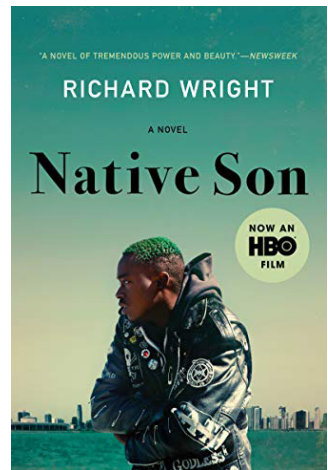
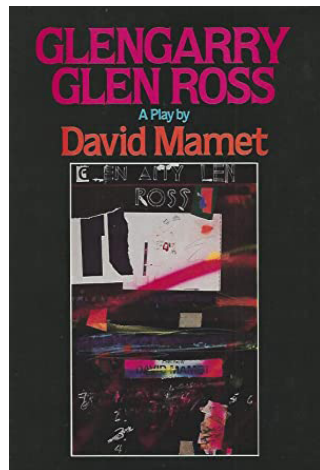
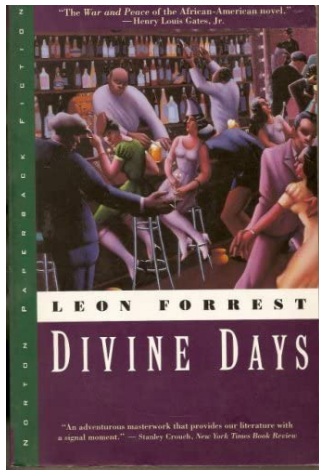
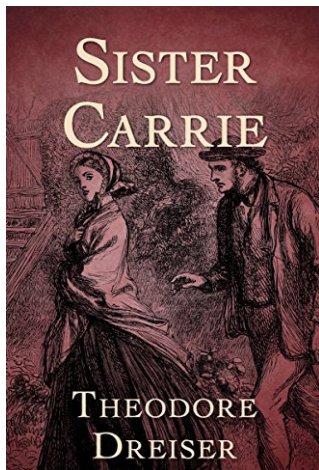
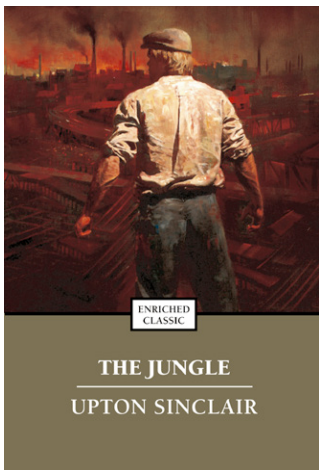
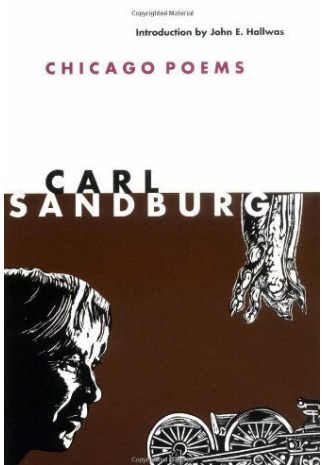
PITTED AGAINST THE WILDERNESS : LITERACY AND URBANISM IN CHICAGO

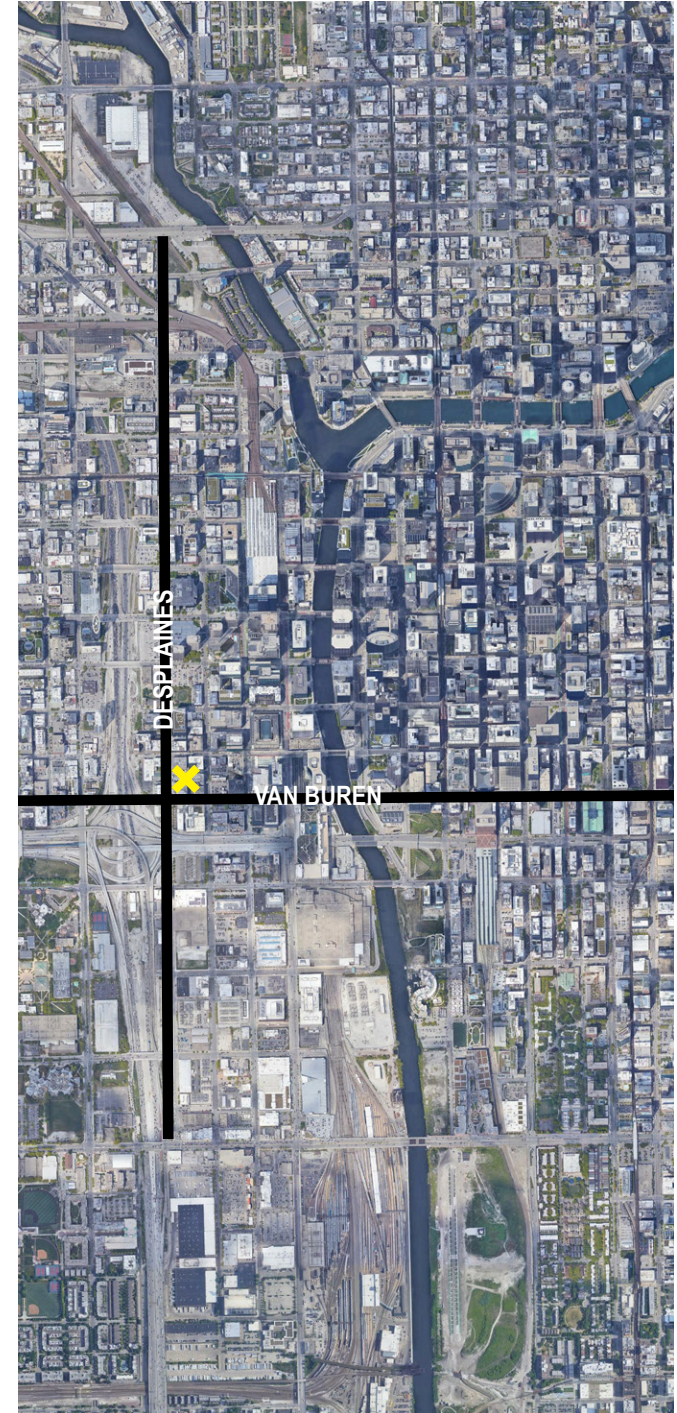
ARCH 574 / LA 598 (Urbanism Studio, 6 credits)

Chicago's literary and urban histories are deeply intertwined. Architecture and landscape figure prominently in modern writing about the city, and literary descriptions in turn imbue the built environment with cultural meaning. Reading from works of Chicago-based history, fiction, and poetry, we will gain a profound understanding of the city's development as a spatial and cultural hub for the region. We will translate written works into **experimental visualizations and 3D models**, challenging the definition of "literacy" as a phenomenon rooted in words.

With these conceptual materials as inspiration, students will develop designs for a **new literacy center** in Chicago. The center might take the form of a building, or a landscape, or both; it may also become a new spatial and programmatic type yet unseen in the city. We will engage with Chicago's extensive literacy networks, including the public libraries, the Poetry Foundation, Open Books, and other academic organizations in the area. The design proposals will ultimately address Chicago's urban history, its unique literature, and new possibilities for cultural, social, and technological literacy in the 21st century.

Still from "Shining Girls" (Apple TV, 2022) adapted from Lauren Beukes' novel *The Shining Girls* (2013)





LOGISTICS

Courses will meet Mondays and Wednesdays in the Chicago Studio space at 333 S. Desplaines Street.

Commuting from Champaign will be possible by car or Amtrak. Final course timing will be determined based on number of students commuting and their travel constraints.

Students in residence in Chicago may be able to register for other required courses online, and will need to communicate with those instructors to determine the most appropriate arrangements.