

# Literature and Political Thought

## A Symposium

Thursday, 7 July 2022

Hertford College invites you to a symposium on the connections between literature and political thought. The day will address a number of related themes: the civic value and limitations of literature; how political practices – from democracy to liberalism – condition or imperil certain forms of art; the role of the literary within political argument; the extent to which literature functions as a distinctive form of political thought.

Speakers: Amanda Anderson (Brown), David Bromwich (Yale), Richard Bourke (Cambridge); Helen Small (Oxford); Sophie Smith (Oxford); David Womersley (Oxford)

### PLEASE REGISTER YOUR INTEREST HERE:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/literature-and-political-thought-a-symposium-tickets-371312414427>

### Schedule

9.15: Welcome

9.30: Sophie Smith, 'The Feigned Commonwealth: Poetry and Political Philosophy in Early Modern England'

10.00: David Womersley, 'Political Thought and the Essay: David Hume'

11.30 *Coffee Break*

11.30: Richard Bourke, 'Aesthetics and Politics: Hegel and After'

12.00: David Bromwich, 'Character, Ideology and the Ad Hominem Argument'

1.00 *Lunch Break*

2.30: Amanda Anderson, 'The Politics of Literary Studies'

3.00: Helen Small, 'Wicked Problems: Political Advocacy for the Humanities'

4.00 *Close of Proceedings*

All talks will take place in the Principal's Lodgings at Hertford College, Oxford. Please contact David Dwan for further information: [david.dwan@ell.ox.ac.uk](mailto:david.dwan@ell.ox.ac.uk)