

Abstract Submitted  
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**Physics and Literature – An Experimental Course** ROBERT BRECHA, Physics Dept., Univ. of Dayton, ALEX TUSS, English Dept., Univ. of Dayton — Works of literature have often contained elements of physics either as an integral part of plot development or as a minor character. Several examples from a course offered at the University of Dayton will be presented to illustrate how literary works can be used as a way of discussing physics principles. Works read in the course include the plays “Proof” by David Auburn, “Oedipus Rex” by Sophocles, “Arcadia” by Tom Stoppard and “Copenhagen” by Michael Frayn, as well as Thomas Pynchon’s novel “The Crying of Lot 49.” Students learn not only the theoretical principles needed to understand more fully the literary works, but perform experiments and keep a journal of observations and questions.

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