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## Buried Alive: The Poetry, Prose, and Essays of Edgar Allan Poe

Edgar Allan Poe is best known for his grotesque characters and macabre plot-twists. But though Poe seems capable of offering readers only a very specific form of literary experience -- dark, brooding, atmospheric -- what's striking about his work when taken as a whole is its *variety*. Poe was a writer of short stories, a poet, a novelist, an essayist, and an editor. He wrote across a range of genres including detective fiction, political allegory, romance, science fiction, and horror. In his spare time, he staged elaborate newspaper hoaxes. This course sets out to appreciate Poe's eclectic literary output by reading his best-known works.

Book to purchase

*The Selected Writings of Edgar Allan Poe*  
Norton Critical Editions, 1st Edition  
ISBN: 0393972852

Optional Secondary Reading (which I'll supply)

Excerpts from Frank Luther Mott's *A History of American Magazines* (1930)

### Week 1, April 3: Perversity and Predicament Narratives

Required	“William Wilson” (1839); “The Pit and the Pendulum” (1842) “The Tell-Tale Heart” (1843); “The Black Cat” (1843)
Recommended	“How to Write a Blackwood Article” (1838); “A Predicament” (1838); “The Imp of the Perverse” (1845)

### Week 2, April 10: Mysteries

Required	“The Man of the Crowd” (1840); “The Murders in the Rue Morgue” (1841); “The Gold Bug” (1843)
Recommended	“The Purloined Letter”

### Week 3, April 17: Essays and Hoaxes

Required “Maelzel's Chess Player” (1836) (P); “Diddling Considered as One of the Exact Sciences” (1843) (P); “A Few Words on Secret Writing” (1841) (P); “The Unparalleled Adventure of One Hans Pfaall” (1835) (P)

Recommended “Prospectus of *The Penn Magazine*” (1840); “Some Secrets of the Magazine Prison-House” (1845) (P); “The Philosophy of Composition” (1846)

#### Week 4, April 24: Poetry

Required “Tamerlane” (1827); “The Raven” (1845); “The Bells” (1849)

Recommended “Dreams” (1827); “Spirits of the Dead” (1827); “Evening Star” (1827); “Imitation” (1827) “[Stanzas]” (1827); “A Dream” (1827); “[The Happiest Day]” (1827); “The Lake -- To -- ” (1827); “Sonnet -- To Science” (1829); “Al Aaraaf” (1829); “Introduction” (1831); “Fairy-Land [1]” (1829); “Fairy-Land [2]” “To Helen” (1848); “Ulalume -- A Ballad” (1847); “A Dream within a Dream” (1849); “For Annie” (1849); “Eldorado” (1849); “Annabel Lee” (1849) (1831); “[Alone]” (1829); “To Helen” (1831); “Israfel” (1831); “The Sleeper” (1831); “The Valley of Unrest” (1831); “The City in the Sea” (1831); “The Coliseum” (1833); “Sonnet-Silence” (1840); “Dream-Land” (1844);

#### Week 5, May 1: Edgar Allan Poe Buried Alive

Required “The Fall of the House of Usher” (1839); “Berenice” (1835); “The Cask of Amontillado” (1846)

Recommended “Loss of Breath” (1832); “Ligeia” (1838); “The Premature Burial” (1844); “Hop-Frog; or, The Eight Chained Ourang-Outangs” (1849)