



## METADATA

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### Abstract

The purpose of this book, which is the main textbook for the elective course "Law and Literature" in the 8th semester of the Law School of the University of Athens, is to introduce law students to a particularly appealing theoretical critical current of American academic origin, which began in the 1970s and is now gaining momentum in European law programs. By cutting across the fields of legal and literary studies, "law and literature" highlights the common elements and links that connect law and literature, enabling a broader understanding of law as a cultural phenomenon. The introduction examines the precursors, causes, and objectives of the "law and literature" movement in the context of contemporary legal studies. The next three chapters are devoted to the three major perspectives from which the relationship between law and literature is mainly examined. The perspective of "law in literature" focuses

on representations of legal institutions and the functions of justice in literary works. The perspective of "law as literature" explores the linguistic and stylistic peculiarities of legal rules and legal writing, while the perspective of "the law of literature" focuses on the institutional framework that defines literary creation as both a possibility and a limitation. The following chapters discuss more specific correlations between law and literature: the similarities and differences between legal and literary interpretation, the place of narrative in legal teaching and practice, and the role of literary works, especially in their most popular form, as a factor accelerating or slowing down legislative reform. The final chapter is devoted to the importance of myth and fiction in the foundation of legal institutions, the formulation of regulatory arguments, and the deciphering of legal doctrines.

