

## Writerly (Greater) Brunswick: How Words and Place Have Shaped Each Other

Course Leader: Larissa Picard

The “Pejepscot” region has produced an array of wordsmiths; some marquee-famous, others known in smaller circles, even those whose words were simply recorded by others. This 6-week course includes voices from pre-European times to the present day, looking at several people whose words extracted meaning from, and made meaning of, this place. A variety of readings including short stories, essays, and poetry are included. Each session includes a short introduction with context provided for the era and the writer(s) in question, but the emphasis is on facilitated discussion.

### April 7: Early Recorders of The Local Story

- [Pere Pol \(Abenaki\), naming the Androscoggin](#), 1793 (or PDF1)
- [King’s Pine Journal](#), 1768 (or PDF2)
- *Memoir of Capt. John Rogers*, ca. 1795 (PDF3)
- “Some Vague Reminiscences of Olden Times in Brunswick,” Mary Ann Kendrick (PDF4)

### April 14: A Who’s Who of Brunswick

- Bowdoin, Class of 1825: Longfellow and Hawthorne
  - [“A Psalm of Life”](#) Henry Wadsworth Longfellow
  - [“The Hollow of the Three Hills”](#) Nathaniel Hawthorne
- *Brunswick: An Historical Play*, 1913, Frank N. Whittier & Albert W. Tolman (PDF5)

### April 21: Reckoning with a Not-so-civil Society

- [“The Two Altars”](#) Harriet Beecher Stowe (or PDF6)
- “Narrative of Phebe Ann Jacobs,” Phebe Upham (PDF7)
- Excerpt from *Facts About Brunswick*, John Furbish (PDF8)
- “Loyalty,” February 22, 1866 speech, collected in *Military essays and recollections of the Pennsylvania Commandery, Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States*, Joshua Chamberlain (PDF9)

### April 28: Putting Maine (Food) on the Map

- [“Night of Lobster,”](#) and [“Shore Dinner,”](#) originally published in *Gourmet Magazine*, Robert P. T. Tristram Coffin
- “Foreword” to *Cooking Down East* and “Keep Cooking—the Maine Way,” Marjorie Standish (PDF10)

**May 4: Contemporary Scene I: Nonfiction**

- [“The Clearing”](#) and [“The Bright Idea of Stewardship”](#), Jane Brox
- [“My Mother’s Burning Body”](#), Jaed Coffin

**May 11: Contemporary Scene II: Poets and A Very Famous Prose Writer**

- Poem: [“Some Clear Night,”](#) Gary Lawless
- Poem: [“The Abandoned Orchards of Maine”](#), Pam Smith
- Poem: [“Root Cellar,”](#) Helene McGlaughlin
- [“If I ever return to a small town, I want you to kill me.”](#) Elizabeth Strout