Humanities Now, a new lecture series at the Whitney Humanities Center, is designed to spark deep thinking, inclusive deliberation, and smart action on current intellectual and social concerns.

Free and open to the public, in the Humanities Quadrangle at 320 York Street.

VITAL BOOKS in the Humanities

METHOD AND DECOLONIZING PRAXIS IN LITERARY STUDIES

Friday, March 29 | 1:00–4:00 pm

Humanities Quadrangle (HQ) 276

The theoretical underpinnings and praxis of literary studies have come under scrutiny in influential books published in recent years. Focusing on two such books, this event appraises the state of criticism, its value and suppositions, and future directions. Panelists discuss the significance of Jonathan Kramnick’s *Criticism and Truth* (Chicago 2023), and *Decolonizing the English Literary Curriculum* (Cambridge 2023), edited by Ato Quayson and Ankhi Mukherjee, while pursuing productive lines of inquiry beyond the texts. Don’t miss the opportunity to hear and engage leading scholars of literary criticism, including Ankhi Mukherjee, Ato Quayson, Debjani Ganguly, Elaine Scarry, Jeanne-Marie Jackson, Joe Cleary, Jonathan Kramnick, and Paul Saint-Amour.

**SCHEDULE**

12:15 LUNCH (for those who RSVP by March 23)

1:00 DECOLONIZING THE ENGLISH LITERARY CURRICULUM

Joe Cleary, Yale University
Debjani Ganguly, University of Virginia
Jeanne-Marie Jackson, Johns Hopkins University

2:15 ON METHOD: CRITICISM AND TRUTH

Ankhi Mukherjee, University of Oxford
Paul Saint-Amour, University of Pennsylvania
Elaine Scarry, Harvard University

3:30 LITERARY FUTURES AND FUTURES OF LITERARY CRITICISM: A CONVERSATION

Jonathan Kramnick, Yale University
Ato Quayson, Stanford University
Ankhi Mukherjee, University of Oxford
Moderated by Jeanne-Marie Jackson, Johns Hopkins University