

Fall/Winter 2018-2019

AP/EN 4530 6.0A (Y)

RENAISSANCE THEATRE

Course Director:

Natalia Khomenko
E-mail: khomenko@yorku.ca
Office Hours: Tuesday 12-1pm, Stong 346

Delivery Format:

Seminar

Time:

Tuesday 8:30am - 11:30 am, Ross South 125

Description:

This course studies the textual and performative aspects of various early modern dramatic works. While we are reading one play by Shakespeare, our focus will be on his contemporaries, including such widely known playwrights as Kyd, Marlowe, Jonson, Webster, and Middleton, and others, whose less are perhaps less familiar today, such as Green, Beaumont, and Dekker. Pairing early modern drama with secondary readings, we will consider the socio-political and cultural contexts of the plays and, in many cases, their staging and reception history, as well as the nature of early modern theatre. We will be paying close attention to genre conventions, the playwrights' literary sources and intertextual dialogues, and the plays' engagement with contemporary events and concerns.

The recommended textbook is David Bevington's *English Renaissance Drama* (Norton), which is available at the campus bookstore. Also acceptable are critical editions of individual plays published by Oxford, Cambridge, or Arden. Secondary readings will be drawn from the *Cambridge Companion to English Renaissance Drama* (edited by Braunmuller), also available at the campus bookstore.

Category:

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Historical Requirement:

Time Period I (pre-1700)

Requirements:

Fall term essay – 20%
Winter term essay proposal & bibliography – 10%
Winter term essay – 25%
Reading responses – 20%
Presentation – 15%
Participation – 10%

Reading List:

LUNA: Folger Digital Image Collection (production images and photographs of production artefacts held at the Folger Shakespeare Library, probably the largest Shakespeare research centre in the world):

<https://luna.folger.edu/luna/servlet/FOLGERCM1~6~6>

Early Modern Books Online (EEBO is database of early modern published works; can be searched, for instance, for the early publications of early modern plays): accessible through York library catalogue.

Henslowe-Alleyn Digitisation Project (a database of original documents related to early modern theatre): <http://www.henslowe-alleyn.org.uk/>

REED: Records of Early English Drama (a gigantic project collecting any evidence of early modern performance; also explore the website for secondary publications it has produced): <http://reed.utoronto.ca/>

The Compendium of Renaissance Drama (a convenient repository of information related to early modern drama, including actors and patrons, maps, timelines, and so on): <http://cord.ung.edu/index.htm>

The Early Modern Drama Database (a repository of the available data on the early performances of Renaissance drama, 1576-1642):

<http://keever.us/earlymodern.html>

Of Pilcrows, subsection of Resources: Early Modern Plays on Page and Stage (good selection of additional online databases and publications):

<http://ofpilcrows.com/resources-early-modern-plays-page-and-stage>

Open To:

Year 3, 4