

Fall/Winter 2020-2021

AP/EN 4530 6.0A (Y)	<i>Renaissance Theatre</i>
Course Director:	Natalia Khomenko Office: Atkinson 708 Ext. 44752 e-mail: khomenko@yorku.ca
Time:	Tuesday 11:30-2:30 pm
Delivery Format:	REMOTE – (synchronous delivery) – There are scheduled meeting times for this course (see above). Students should plan to be available for course-related activities during the appointed times. For more information, see the Description and/or Requirements below.
Description:	<p>The political, social, and religious changes in the sixteenth century gave birth to commercial theatre in England. It was a period of bold theatrical exploration: playwrights and players experimented with stage spaces, use of props, audience engagement, and modes of performance. Theatre became a place of interrogating gender, race, class, and religious belief; English Puritans saw Renaissance theatres as a threat to public morality and lobbied to have them closed down.</p> <p>This course focuses on plays written by Shakespeare's contemporaries, including such widely known playwrights as Christopher Marlowe, Ben Jonson, John Webster, and Thomas Middleton, and others, who are perhaps less familiar today, such as Robert Greene, Francis Beaumont, Thomas Dekker, and Elizabeth Cary. Pairing plays with secondary readings and, in some cases, with contemporary productions on stage and film, we will consider the socio-political and cultural contexts of Renaissance drama, as well as their staging and reception history. 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. We will be reading approximately one full-length play every two weeks, plus shorter supplementary materials.</p> <p>This course will be delivered both through recorded lectures (audio over computer screen) and in Zoom sessions (approximately 6 every semester). The students will be expected to attend the Zoom sessions, familiarize themselves with the lectures, and contribute to the weekly online forums on Moodle.</p>
Category:	C
Historical Requirement:	Time Period I (pre-1700)

Requirements:	Fall essay proposal: 5% Fall term essay – 15% Winter term essay proposal & annotated bibliography – 10% Winter term research essay – 20% Short response papers (2 each semester): 20% Peer-review contribution (1 each semester): 5% Performance responses (1 each semester): 10% Participation (Zoom sessions and online forums) – 15%
Reading List:	A selection of Renaissance plays drawn from <i>English Renaissance Drama</i> , ed. David Bevington (Norton), supplemented by primary and secondary readings accessible online.
Open To:	YR 4 H