

## SCHOOL OF ENGLISH, FILM AND THEATRE

### ENGL 410 : RENAISSANCE STUDIES 2006

Convenor: Linda Hardy (linda.hardy@vuw.ac.nz) VZ 812 Ph. 463- 6806

Seminar time and place: Thursday, 10-12 noon. VZ 808

**N.B. I will be on conference leave overseas until July 26<sup>th</sup>; therefore our first seminar meeting will be on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> July.**

**Copies of the critical readings for the first three seminars on Marlowe will be available in my absence from the reception desk on the 8<sup>th</sup> floor of von Zedlitz.**

#### Course aims & objectives:

The set texts for this paper are four plays by Christopher Marlowe, *Tamburlaine Part One* and *Part Two*, *Dr Faustus* and *Edward II*; Shakespeare's *Sonnets*; and selections from the poems, sermons and *Devotions* of John Donne. These texts will be supplemented by critical essays (distributed in class) on a variety of topics, including the Renaissance (re)invention of eloquence; knowledge and scepticism; sexual narratives; and the rise of vernacular literary authorship. Marlowe, Shakespeare and Donne were prominent among the English writers who created, in the late C16th and early C17th, a confident, highly literate, vernacular culture, which both disdained and drew energy from older traditions of oral performance and popular entertainment. Accordingly this paper will also consider the conditions and institutions of literary production in Renaissance England, in particular the relation of the playhouse, the pulpit and the manuscript to the products (which we read) of the printing house.

#### Set Texts:

- Christopher Marlowe, *Dr Faustus and other plays*, ed. Eric Rasmussen (Oxford World Classics)
- William Shakespeare, *Shakespeare's Sonnets*, ed. K. Duncan-Jones (The Arden Shakespeare)
- John Donne, *The Major Works* (Oxford World Classics).

The above are recommended editions; other editions are acceptable.  
Supplementary readings and seminar notes will be circulated in class.

**Recommended introductory reading:** David Riggs, *The World of Christopher Marlowe*; *The Cambridge Companion to Christopher Marlowe* ed. Patrick Cheney; J.B. Leishman, *Themes and Variations in Shakespeare's Sonnets*; Helen Vendler, *The Art of Shakespeare's Sonnets*; John Carey, *John Donne: Life Mind and Art*; Arthur Marotti, *John Donne: Coterie Poet*.

#### Attendance and seminar preparation:

Honours students are expected to be well-prepared for classes, particularly in their reading, and to be ready to lead discussion.

It is expected that you will attend **all** seminars. If you are unable to attend a seminar, please contact me as soon as you can in order to find out what you will need to do before the next meeting of the class.

**Where to find additional information:**

Further information will be circulated in seminars, and on the **ENGL 410 Blackboard site**. Should you miss a seminar please make sure you contact me as soon as possible.

***ENGL 410 SEMINAR TIMETABLE***

**Thursdays, 10-12 noon. VZ 808**

**1. July 27**

**Marlowe: Marlowe's map**

- *Tamburlaine Parts I & 2*

Readings: Stephen Greenblatt, from *Renaissance Self-Fashioning*  
Garrett Sullivan, "Geography and Identity in Marlowe"  
John Gillies, from *Shakespeare and the Geography of Difference*

**2. t.b.a**

**Marlowe: "I'll burn my books"**

- *Dr Faustus*

Readings: David Riggs, from *The World of Christopher Marlowe*  
Harry Levin, from *Christopher Marlowe*

**3. August 3**

**Marlowe: "words that make me surfeit with delight"**

- *Edward II*

Reading: from Bruce Smith, *Homosexual Desire in Shakespeare's England*

**4. August 10**

**Shakespeare's *Sonnets*: "this powerful rhyme"**

Readings: Helen Vendler, from *The Art of Shakespeare's Sonnets*  
J.B. Leishman, from *Themes and Variations in Shakespeare's Sonnets*

**5. August 17**

**Shakespeare's *Sonnets*: "shall I compare thee?"**

Readings: John Kerrigan, "Introduction" to *Shakespeare's Sonnets*

***MID TRIMESTER BREAK***

***1<sup>st</sup> essay due: Monday September 4***

**6. September 7**

**Shakespeare's *Sonnets*: "two loves I have"**

Readings: Eve Sedgwick. from *Between Men*  
 Joel Fineman, from “Shakespeare’s ‘Perjur’d Eye’”

**7. September 14      Donne: learned wit**

- “An Anatomy of the World: The First Anniversary”; “Satire 3”;  
 “A Nocturnal upon St Lucy’s Day”.

Reading: from John Carey, *John Donne: Life Mind and Art*

**9. September 21      Donne: sacred and profane**

- “Good Friday 1613. Riding Westward”; Holy Sonnets 6,10,15,  
 18,19; “The Canonization”; “Air and Angels”; “The Relic”.

Reading: from Carey, *John Donne: Life Mind and Art*

**10. September 28      Donne: print and manuscript**

Reading: from Arthur Marotti, *John Donne: Coterie Poet*

***2nd essay due: Monday October 2***

**11. October 4      Donne: the preacher at St Paul’s**

- “Death’s Duel” etc.

Reading: from Joan Webber, *Contrary Music*

**ASSESSMENT:**

**Essays must be presented in accordance with the conventions outlined in the School’s style sheet, *Guidelines for SEFT Students* (Student Notes and School website).**

**1. 1st essay**, on the plays of Christopher Marlowe, due on or before **Monday, September 4**, of approximately 2,500 words. **30% of final result.** Topics to be circulated.

**2. 2nd essay**, on Shakespeare’s sonnets, due on or before **Monday October 2**, of approximately 2,500 words. **30% of final result.** Topics to be circulated.

**Due dates & extensions:** The due dates for written work for this course are flexible and can be negotiated in advance to fit in with your overall timetable. However, work handed in after the due date without permission from me will be penalised by the deduction of a part grade. Any work submitted more than two weeks after the due date may be graded without comment. All written work **MUST** be handed in by **Friday 13 October**; only in exceptional circumstances will permission to submit work later than this date be granted by the Head of School.

**3. Final examination. (3 hours) 40% of final result.**

The exam will consist of two sections (each will be worth 50% of the exam mark). There will be a choice of essay topics in each section.

**Section A:** a choice of questions on some aspect of the writings of John Donne.

**Section B:** a general essay, in relation to the texts studied and the topics discussed in the course.

This will be a “**restricted materials**” examination, allowing you to bring only your copies of the set texts into the examination room. These may be moderately annotated.

Note: 'Grades gained in individual [Honours] papers are always subordinate to the overall assessment made by the full group of examiners for the Honours programme as a whole' (*Graduate Programme 2006*, School of English, Film, Theatre and Media Studies).

### **WORKLOAD:**

The university expects that you should be able to devote at least **24 hours per week** to a one trimester paper in a full-time 4-paper graduate programme. (This estimate includes seminar attendance and preparation for seminars and essays.) Individual students will of course need to make their own judgements about the amount of time they must give to the course in order to maintain satisfactory progress.

### **MANDATORY COURSE REQUIREMENTS:**

In addition to sitting the exam, and maintaining a satisfactory attendance at and participation in the seminars, you must complete and hand in the two assignments by October 13, unless a special exemption from these requirements has been granted by the Head of School.

### **GENERAL UNIVERSITY POLICIES AND STATUTES**

Students should familiarise themselves with the University's policies and statutes, particularly those regarding assessment and course of study requirements, and formal academic grievance procedures.

#### **Student Conduct and Staff Conduct**

The Statute on Student Conduct together with the Policy on Staff Conduct ensure that members of the University community are able to work, learn, study and participate in the academic and social aspects of the University's life in an atmosphere of safety and respect. The Statute on Student Conduct contains information on what conduct is prohibited and what steps can be taken if there is a complaint. For queries about complaint procedures under the Statute on Student Conduct, contact the Facilitator and Disputes Advisor. This Statute is available in the Faculty Student Administration Office or on the website at:

[www.vuw.ac.nz/policy/StudentConduct](http://www.vuw.ac.nz/policy/StudentConduct).

The policy on Staff Conduct can be found on the VUW website at:

[www.vuw.ac.nz/policy/StaffConduct](http://www.vuw.ac.nz/policy/StaffConduct).

#### **Academic Grievances**

If you have any academic problems with your course you should talk to the tutor or lecturer concerned or, if you are not satisfied with the result of that meeting, see the Head of School or the relevant Associate Dean of your faculty. Class representatives are available to assist you with this process. If, after trying the above channels, you are still unsatisfied, formal grievance procedures can be invoked. These are set out in the Academic Grievance Policy which is published on the VUW website:

[www.vuw.ac.nz/policy/AcademicGrievances](http://www.vuw.ac.nz/policy/AcademicGrievances).

### **Academic integrity and Plagiarism**

Academic integrity is about honesty – put simply it means **no cheating**. All members of the University community are responsible for upholding academic integrity, which means staff and students are expected to behave honestly, fairly and with respect for others at all times.

Plagiarism is a form of cheating which undermines academic integrity. Plagiarism is **prohibited** at Victoria.

The University defines plagiarism as follows:

*Plagiarism is presenting someone else's work as if it were your own, whether you mean to or not.*

‘Someone else’s work’ means anything that is not your own idea, even if it is presented in your own style. It includes material from books, journals or any other printed source, the work of other students or staff, information from the Internet, software programmes and other electronic material, designs and ideas. It also includes the organization or structuring of any such material.

### ***Plagiarism is not worth the risk.***

Any enrolled student found guilty of plagiarism will be subject to disciplinary procedures under the Statute on Student Conduct ([www.vuw.ac.nz/policy/studentconduct](http://www.vuw.ac.nz/policy/studentconduct)) and may be penalized severely. Consequences of being found guilty of plagiarism can include:

- an oral or written warning
- suspension from class or university
- cancellation of your mark for an assessment or a fail grade for the course.

Find out more about plagiarism and how to avoid it, on the University’s website at:

[www.vuw.ac.nz/home/studying/plagiarism.html](http://www.vuw.ac.nz/home/studying/plagiarism.html).

### **Students with Disabilities**

The University has a policy of reasonable accommodation of the needs of students with

disabilities. The policy aims to give students with disabilities an equal opportunity with all other students to demonstrate their abilities. If you have a disability, impairment or chronic medical condition (temporary, permanent or recurring) that may impact on your ability to participate, learn and/or achieve in lectures and tutorials or in meeting the course requirements, please contact the Course Co-ordinator as early in the course as possible. Alternatively you may wish to approach a Student Adviser from Disability Support Services to confidentially discuss your individual needs and the options and support that are available. Disability Support Services are located on Level 1, Robert Stout Building:

Telephone: 463-6070

Email: [disability@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:disability@vuw.ac.nz)

The name of your School's Disability Liaison Person is in the relevant prospectus or can be obtained from the Administrative Assistant.

### Student Support

Staff at Victoria want students' learning experiences at the University to be positive. If your academic progress is causing you concern, the following staff members will either help you directly or quickly put you in contact with someone who can.

	<b>Staff member</b>	<b>Location</b>
FHSS	Dr Allison Kirkman	Murphy Building, room 407
Law	Kirstin Harvey	Old Govt Building, room 103
Science, and Architecture and Design	Liz Richardson	Cotton Building, room 150
Commerce and Administration	Colin Jeffcoat	Railway West Wing, room 119
Kaiwawao Maori	Liz Rawhiti	Old Kirk, room 007
Manaaki Pihipihinga	Melissa Dunlop	14 Kelburn Pde, room 109D
Victoria International	Anne Cronin	10 Kelburn Pde, room 202

The Student Services Group is also available to provide a variety of support and services. Find out more at:

[www.vuw.ac.nz/st\\_services/](http://www.vuw.ac.nz/st_services/)

Email: [student-services@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:student-services@vuw.ac.nz).

VUWSA employs two Education Coordinators who deal with academic problems and provide support, advice and advocacy services, as well as organising class representatives and faculty delegates. The Education Office is located on the ground floor, Student Union Building:

Telephone 463 6983 or 463 6984

Email: [education@vuwsa.org.nz](mailto:education@vuwsa.org.nz).