

Dr. Maura Tarnoff
TR, 5:00-6:15pm
PRH 14
Office hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 11am-2pm

ENGL 639: Discovery and Colonization in Renaissance Literature

This course will explore the connections articulated in English Renaissance poetry, drama, chorography, and travel writing among the projects of national identity formation, cultural description, and colonial expansion. We will examine the European and transatlantic contexts of English self-representation during the sixteenth and early seventeenth centuries, and will attend, in particular, to the powerful influence of Spain and Spanish conquests in Granada and the Americas on England's national imaginary and its colonial efforts in Ireland and the Americas. Primary texts will include Thomas More's *Utopia*, Bartolomé de Las Casas's *Una brevisima relación* (in the 1583 English translation, *The Spanish Colonie*), Edmund Spenser's *View of the State of Ireland* and *The Faerie Queene*, sonnets by Garcilaso de la Vega and Sir Philip Sidney, travel writing by Sir Walter Raleigh, Ben Jonson's *Masque of Blackness*, William Shakespeare's *The Tempest*, Aphra Behn's *Oroonoko* and *The Widow Ranter*, and the memoirs of Catalina de Erauso (who abandoned her Basque cloister for life as a transvestite and mercenary soldier in the New World). This course aims to sharpen both close reading and research skills and will prepare students to develop and deliver a paper at an academic conference.

Requirements

*Attendance and participation (including contributions to class discussions and to the overall intellectual climate of the course) are mandatory. More than two absences will affect your grade. You cannot pass the class if you miss five or more classes.

Assignments and Grading:

- Weekly response writings (500 words reflecting on and responding to the readings due for either Tuesday or Thursday of each week. I suggest that you use these short writing assignments to explore connections between the readings and the themes, topics, and critical contexts covered in class. Responses are to be emailed to me by 10pm on the day before the readings that you've chosen to reflect upon are due). 20%
- Two research presentations (the first will be on a work of travel or colonial writing not covered on the syllabus and the second will be modeled on a conference presentation and excerpted from your final research paper) 15%
- Two essays: a close-reading paper (5-7 pages) and a research paper (10-15 pages) that develops an innovative thesis and defines its contributions to early modern scholarship. We will workshop the research paper in class during our final week and students will give a presentation that is the length of a conference paper (15 minutes or 6-8 pages) on the last day of class. The final version of the paper, incorporating class feedback, should be submitted to me by email on or before December 18. 65%

Books

- William Shakespeare, *The Tempest* (Arden)
Richard Hakluyt, *Voyages and Discoveries* (Penguin)
Thomas More, *Utopia* (Penguin)
Aphra Behn. *Oroonoko and Other Writings* (Penguin)
Catalina De Erauso, *Lieutenant Nun* (Beacon)

Selected Bibliography

- Bhabha, Homi. *The Location of Culture*. New York: Routledge, 1994.
-Blackmore, Josiah and Gregory S. Hutcheson, eds. *Queer Iberia: Sexualities, Cultures, and Crossings from the Middle Ages to the Renaissance*. Durham: Duke UP, 1999.
-Bradshaw, Brenden, Andrew Hadfield, and Willy Maley, eds. *Representing Ireland And the Origins of Conflict, 1534-1660*. Cambridge: Cambridge UP, 1993.
-Canny, Nicholas, *Making Ireland British 1580-1650*. Oxford: Oxford UP, 2001.
-Gillies, John. *Shakespeare and the Geography of Difference*. Cambridge: Cambridge UP, 1994.
-Greenblatt, Stephen. *Marvellous Possessions: The Wonder of the New World*. Oxford: Oxford UP, 1991.
-Greene, Roland. *Unrequited Conquests: Love and Empire in the Colonial Americas*. Chicago: U of Chicago P, 2000.
-Griffin, Eric. "From Ethos to Ethnos: Hispanizing 'the Spaniard' in the Old World and the New," *The New Centennial Review* 2.1 (2002) 69-116.
-Fuchs, Barbara. "An English Picaro in New Spain: Miles Philips and the Framing of National Identity." *The New Centennial Review* 2.1 (2002): 55-68.
-----, "Spanish Lessons: Spenser and the Irish Moriscos." *SEL* 42.1 (2002): 43-62.
-Hadfield, Andrew. *Literature, Travel and Colonial Writing in the English Renaissance* Oxford: Blackwell, 1998.
-Hall, Kim. *Things of Darkness: Economies of Race and Gender in Early Modern England*. Ithaca: Cornell U P, 1995.
-Hamlin, William, M. *The Image of America in Montaigne, Spenser, and Shakespeare*. New York: St. Martin's Press, 1995.
-Hattaway, Michael, ed. *A Companion To English Renaissance Literature and Culture*. Oxford: Blackwell, 2000.
-Hendricks, Margo and Patricia Parker. *Women, 'Race,' and Writing in the Early Modern Period*. London: Routledge, 1994.
-Helgerson, Richard. *Forms of Nationhood*. Chicago: U of Chicago P, 1992.
-Herron, Thomas, "The Spanish Armada, Ireland, and Spenser's *The Faerie Queene*," *New Hibernia* 6.2 (2002): 83-105.
-Hulton, Paul, ed. *America 1585: The Complete Drawings of John White*. Chapel Hill, U of North Carolina P, 1985.
-Kamps, Ivo and Jyotsna G. Singh, eds. *Travel Knowledge: European 'Discoveries' in the Early Modern Period*. New York: Palgrave, 2001.
-Knapp, Jeffrey. *An Empire Nowhere: England, America, and Literature from Utopia to*

- The Tempest*. Berkeley: U of California P, 1992.
- Loomba, Ania and Jonathan Burton, eds. *Race in Early Modern England: A Documentary Companion*. New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2007.
 - Maltby, William. *The Black Legend in England: The Development of Anti-Spanish Sentiment*. Durham, NC: Duke UP, 1971.
 - Palmer, Patricia. *Language and Conquest in Early Modern Ireland*. Cambridge: Cambridge UP, 2001.
 - Rodríguez-Salgado, M. J., *England, Spain and the Gran Armada: 1585-1604: essays from the Anglo-Spanish conferences*. Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield, 1991.
 - Todorov, Tzvetan. *The Conquest of America: The Question of Difference*. New York: Harper & Row: 1984.

Online Resources

- Oxford English Dictionary Online* (historical dictionary available via library databases—use this to look up sixteenth and seventeenth-century meanings of words)
- Luminarium: www.luminarium.org (independent scholarly website; includes texts and scholarly essays as well as links to other online resources)
- Project Muse (library database for humanities and social sciences)
- MLA International Bibliography (library database for modern languages and literature)
- JSTOR (library database for humanities, arts, sciences, and social sciences)
- The Early Modern Drama Database
<http://homepage.mac.com/tomdalekeever/earlymodern.html>
- Renaissance Women Online
<http://www.wwp.brown.edu/about/RWOoverview.html>
- Voice of the Shuttle (guide to online humanities research)
<http://vos.ucsb.edu/>
- The English Dept. at the University of Pennsylvania's CFP (calls for papers) List and Archive <http://call-for-papers.sas.upenn.edu/>

Schedule of Readings and Assignments (Subject to Change)

Week 1: Introduction, Constructions of Nationhood

Tues., Sept. 4: Andrew Boorde, "An Englishman," from *The Fyrste Booke of the Introduction of Knowledge* (1555), class handout.

Thurs., Sept. 6: Thomas More, *Utopia*

-Jeffrey Knapp, *An Empire Nowhere*, chapter 1 (recommended)

Week 2: Humanism and Travel Writing:

Tues., Sept. 11: Thomas More, *Utopia*

-Joan Pau Rubiés, "Travel Writing and Ethnography," *Cambridge Companion to Travel Writing* (recommended).

Thurs., Sept. 13: Hakluyt, Selections from *Voyages and Discoveries*

-Barbara Fuchs, "An English Picaro in New Spain: Miles Philips and the Framing of National Identity" (Project Muse)

Week 3: Spain and the Black Legend

Tues., Sept. 18: Selections from *Voyages and Discoveries*

- Eric Griffin, "From Ethos to Ethnos: Hispanizing 'the Spaniard' in the Old World and the New" (Project Muse)

Thurs., Sept. 20: Selections from *Voyages and Discoveries*

-Excerpt from Bartolomé de Las Casas, *Una brevisima relación* in the 1583 English translation, *The Spanish Colonie* (handout).

Week 4: Imperial Desires

Tues., Sept. 25: Selections from *Voyages and Discoveries* (Sir Walter Raleigh)

Thurs., Sept. 27: Poetry by Philip Sidney, Thomas Wyatt, Thomas Nash, and Andrew Marvell.

-Roland Green, "Imperial Sidney" from *Unrequited Conquests*.

Week 5: Spenser and the Celtic Fringe (cont.)

Tues., Oct. 2: Edmund Spenser, excerpt from *A View of the Present State of Ireland*

Thurs., Oct. 4: Spenser, *Faerie Queene*, Book V

Week 6: Irish Moriscos; Genealogies of Colonial Space

Tues., Oct. 9: *Faerie Queene*, Book V

Thurs., Oct. 11: *Faerie Queene*, Book V

*First Paper Due

Week 7: Court, Commerce, and Spectacle

Tues., Oct. 16: Excerpt from the Journal of Finch and Hearne, "The Red Dragon in Sierra Leone."

-Gary Taylor, "Hamlet in Africa, 1607." (handout)

Thurs., Oct. 18: Ben Jonson, *Masque of Blackness* (handout)

Week 8: Humanism and Emerging Ethnographies

Tues., Oct. 23: William Shakespeare, *The Tempest*

Thurs., Oct. 25: *The Tempest*

-Michel de Montaigne, 'Of the Cannibales' (1580), trans. John Florio (1603), (handout).

Week 9: Colonial and Postcolonial Studies

Tues., Oct. 30: *The Tempest*

Paul Brown, " "This thing of darkness I acknowledge mine": *The Tempest* and the Discourse of colonialism." (handout)

Thurs., Nov. 1: No classes

Week 10: Epic Voyages; Biblical and Colonial History

Tues., Nov. 6: John Milton, *Paradise Lost*, Book 4

Thurs., Nov. 8: *Paradise Lost*, Book 4

Week 11: Transatlantic Studies and the Slave Trade

Tues., Nov. 13: Aphra Behn, *Oroonoko*
Thurs., Nov. 15: *Oroonoko*

Week 12: Class Conflict and Colonial Discourse

Tues., Nov. 20: Behn, *The Widow Ranter*
*Conference paper proposal due
Thurs., Nov. 22: *The Widow Ranter*

Week 13: Colonial Contexts of Seventeenth-Century Women's Writing

Tues., Nov. 27: Lady Mary Wortley Montagu TBA
Thurs., Nov. 29: Catalina de Erauso, *Lieutenant Nun*

Week 14: Travel and Transvestitism

Tues., Dec. 4: *Lieutenant Nun*
-Marjorie Garber, "The Marvel of Peru"
Thurs., Dec. 6: No classes

Week 15: Conclusions

Tues., Dec. 11: *Lieutenant Nun*
*Workshop of final papers (6-7 pages due)
Thurs., Dec. 15: Conference paper presentations (15 minutes each)