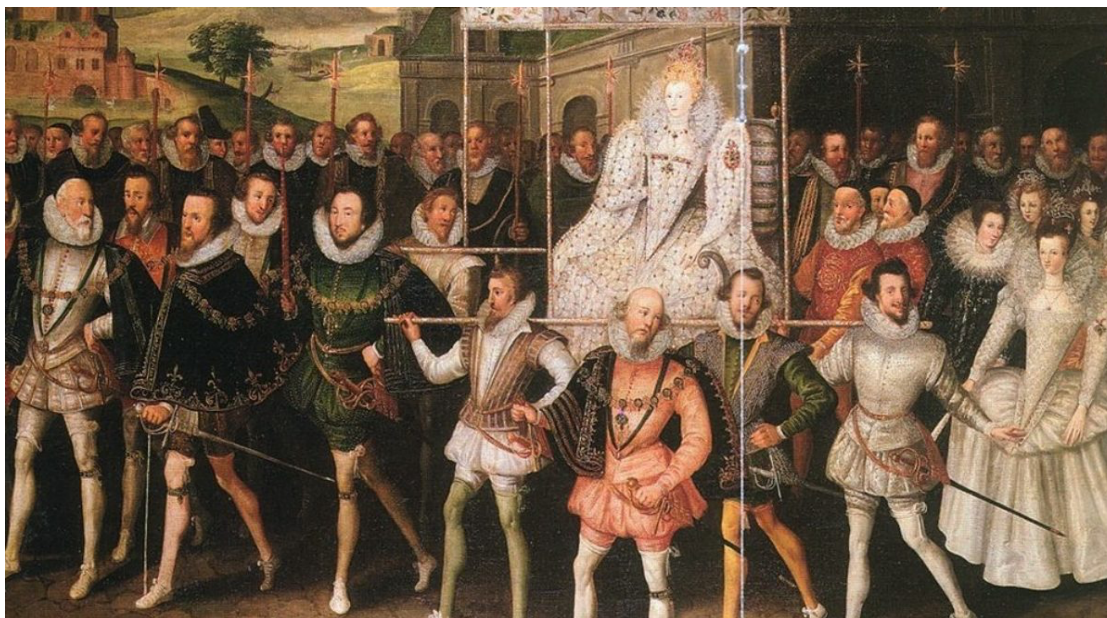




HL 2002 Renaissance Literature

Semester 1 (Academic Year 2026–2027)

Course Blog: <https://renaissanceliterature.wordpress.com>

Pass for lecture and presentations PPTs: RL2002

Course Coordinator: Associate Prof. Jane Wong Yeang Chui

Office: HSS 03-58

Office Hours: TBA

Email: yc.wong@ntu.edu.sg (pls. refrain for using the auto-search function for “Jane Wong” when you email me: it will direct you to a different university staff member)

Course Description

This course introduces major themes and authors in English Renaissance Literature. The works that we will be studying are concerned with Renaissance political traditions and intersections in European intellectual thought. These include the idea of governance and kingship, writing and patronage (and censorship), ethics and philosophy, and religious conflict in early modern England. This course aims to develop a strong foundation of what is arguably the most important historical period in the development of English literature. The materials covered in this course should also encourage students to consider how literary narratives merge with historical discourse to produce meaningful interpretations of English culture in the early modern period.

General Guidelines

- All students who need to consult during office hours should send an email at least 3 working days ahead of time. Allow at least a day or two for responses to emails (with the exception of weekends and public holidays).

- Office consultation: All consultations are in-office unless otherwise stated (strictly limited to one consultation per assignment).
- **All materials** distributed in class and on our course blog are to be used for class lectures, assignments, and discussions only. They are not to be re-distributed outside of class for any other purposes. If you wish to use the materials for your assignments, you must cite them accordingly.
- You are not allowed to record lectures in any form without formal permission from the university.

Attendance and Participation:

- If you are unable to attend class, it is your responsibility to check our course blog for updates or announcements that you may have missed.
- If you are absent on the day when an in-class writing assignment is due, you will not be able to make-up for this. Those who are absent for presentations will not have the opportunity to make-up their work in another group's presentation.

Plagiarism, Generative AI, and Late Assignments:

- Plagiarism cases will be subject to university disciplinary action. Please familiarize yourself with the university's academic integrity policies here: <http://www.ntu.edu.sg/ai/Pages/academic-integrity-policy.aspx>
- You are discouraged from using any Generative AI platforms for all assignments in this class. In accordance with the general grading criteria, you are expected to demonstrate independent core skills in critical thinking and writing.
- Late assignments: written assignments that are submitted late will receive a penalty of half a grade each day (including weekends and holidays); if I do not receive an assignment a week after it is due, you will receive a 0 for the essay.

Extension Requests:

- Extension requests will only be reviewed with documentation **and** a consultation with me to discuss work-in-progress (students are expected to have a working draft for this purpose). Requests will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis.

Course Assessment:

Presentation	20%
Participation	10%
Critical Response (deadline 15 Sept.)	20%
Final Essay (deadline 10 Nov.)	50%

Required Texts:

Kyd, Thomas. *The Spanish Tragedy*. ISBN: 978-1904271604

Shakespeare, William. *The History of King Lear: The Oxford Shakespeare*. ISBN: 978-0199535828

Shakespeare, William. *Henry IV, Part 1* (Penguin Classics). ISBN: 978-0143130208

Shakespeare, William. *Henry IV, Part 2* (Penguin Classics). ISBN: 978-0143131762

Spenser, Edmund. *The Faerie Queene, Books Three and Four (Bk. 3 & 4)* (Hackett). ISBN: 978-0872208551

Marlowe, Christopher. *Doctor Faustus* (Norton Critical Editions). ISBN: 978-0393977547

Milton, John. *Paradise Lost* (Hackett Classics). ISBN: 978-0872207332

***NOTE ON PRESCRIBED TEXTS:**

You are welcome to use your own edition of the texts listed above, however, but sure that you have copies with line numbers (and Act/Scene numbers for the plays).

Tentative Course Outline

Week	Topic
Week 1 11 Aug.	Introduction (Presentation Sign-up)
Week 2 18 Aug. Romance	Excerpts from Edmund Spenser's <i>Faerie Queene Book 3</i> (Cantos 1–2) *In addition, pls. also read "Letter to Raleigh" which can be found in the same text, on pages 451-454 (If you are using a different version of the book, the "Letter to Raleigh" is normally either at the beginning or the end of the text.)
Week 3 25 Aug. Romance	Excerpts from Edmund Spenser's <i>Faerie Queene Book 3</i> (Cantos 3–7)
Week 4 1 Sept. Governance and Kingship	William Shakespeare's <i>Henry IV, Part I</i> (Film)
Week 5 8 Sept. Governance and Kingship	William Shakespeare's <i>Henry IV, Part II</i>

Week 6 15 Sept. Tragedy	Thomas Kyd's <i>The Spanish Tragedy</i> Critical Response Deadline
Week 7 22 Sept. Tragedy	William Shakespeare's <i>King Lear</i>
Week 8: 29 Sept.	Recess
Week 9 6 Oct. Reformation	Excerpts from John Foxe's <i>Book of Martyrs</i> (on course blog)
Week 10 13 Oct. Reformation	Christopher Marlowe's <i>Dr. Faustus</i>
Week 11 20 Oct. Religion	Excerpts from John Milton's <i>Paradise Lost</i> (Books I and II)
Week 12 27 Oct. Religion	Excerpts from John Milton's <i>Paradise Lost</i> (Books III –V)
Week 13 3 Nov. Conclusion	Conclusion and Review