



**Instructor:** Cary Dipietro

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**Course Number:** ENG331H5F

**Course Title:** Drama to 1603

**Course description:** In this course, we will survey early English drama, from Tudor court and university plays to the plays of Shakespeare and his contemporaries up to the death of Elizabeth I in 1603. We will consider in particular how English drama is transformed from its ritual, Catholic origins by such phenomena as the Reformation, the renaissance of classical philosophy and literature, Humanism, fashions of courtly writing, and the collaborative economies of theatrical performance and book-making in early modern London. Further emphasis will be given to close textual analysis of such aspects of the drama as verse structure, rhetorical ornamentation and the historicity of language.

**Required Reading:** Heywood, *The Four PP* (coursepack); *Mr. S, Gammer Gurton's Needle* (coursepack); Norton and Sackville, *Gorboduc* (coursepack); Kyd, *The Spanish Tragedy* (in Bevington [ed.] *English Renaissance Drama*); Lyly, *Endymion* (in Bevington); Anon, *Arden of Feversham* (in Bevington); Marlowe, *Dr. Faustus, Edward II* (in Bevington); Dekker, *The Shoemaker's Holiday* (in Bevington); Shakespeare, *Love's Labour's Lost, Richard III* (Oxford). For those taking this course in combination with ENG335HS "Drama 1603 to 1642," it will be cheaper to purchase *the Norton Anthology of English Renaissance*

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(ed. David Bevington). This is the text that will be ordered for the UTM Bookstore. For those students taking this course on its own, it may be cheaper to purchase elsewhere individual play texts such as the very good New Mermaids editions available for Kyd and Marlowe. Students may choose any scholarly edition of the Shakespeare plays, including in anthologies such as the Norton Shakespeare; the individual play editions in the Oxford World's Classics series will be available for purchase at the bookstore.

**First Three Texts/Authors to be Studied:** Heywood, *The Four PP* (coursepack); *Mr. S, Gammer Gurton's Needle* (coursepack); Norton and Sackville, *Gorboduc* (coursepack).

**Method of Instruction:** Lecture and group discussion.

**Method of Evaluation:** Participation/discussion (10%), short close-reading essays (2 x 15%), midterm (10%), essay (30%), and final test (20%).