COURSE CODE AND TITLE: İED 6/749 RENAISSANCE ENGLISH DRAMA (EXCLUDING SHAKESPEARE)

Lecturer: Assist. Prof. Dr. Şebnem Kaya
Year and Term: 2010-2011 Spring
Classhours: Thursday, 13:00-16:45
Classroom: Seminar room
Office Hours: Thursday, 12:00-12:45
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Course Objectives: This course aims to acquaint students with a selection of English plays written from 1485 to the mid-seventeenth century and to enable students to develop a critical approach to these plays.

Course Contents: To study the rise and development of the Renaissance tragedy and comedy with reference to their theory and origins, this course concentrates on the comparative and in-depth analysis (in terms of both form and content) of the works produced by English Renaissance dramatists, excluding Shakespeare, during the reigns of Elizabeth I, James I, and Charles I.

Among the plays examined in this course are Nicholas Udall’s Ralph Roister Doister, the anonymous Gammer Gurnton’s Needle, Thomas Norton and Thomas Sackville’s Gorboduc, Christopher Marlowe’s Tamburlaine the Great and Edward II, Thomas Kyd’s The Spanish Tragedy, Robert Greene’s Friar Bacon and Friar Bungay, Thomas Heywood’s A Woman Killed with Kindness, John Marston’s The Malcontent, John Lyly’s Endymion: The Man in the Moon, Ben Jonson’s Bartholomew Fair, Francis Beaumont and John Fletcher’s The Knight of the Burning Pestle, John Webster’s The White Devil, Thomas Dekker’s The Witch of Edmonton, and John Ford’s ’Tis Pity She’s a Whore.

Method of Instruction: Lessons will consist of lectures, student presentations, and in-class discussions.

Requirements:
- Class attendance is necessary; therefore, more than eleven hours of absence will result in F1.
- Each student is expected to prepare and present two formal papers, the topics of which are to be chosen from the above list of works. PhD students, different from MA students, are required to make at least two additional presentations, or submit two additional formal papers, as well as to do more extensive research.
- Since contribution in class discussions is essential, students are expected to attend the classes having read the texts, in addition to a few of the books stated in the suggested reading list.
- Students should also take their research task seriously and prepare their papers in accordance with the principles stated in the current MLA Style Manual.

Assessment: The evaluation of students’ academic work will be based on:

- Presentations and class participation: 30%
- Two midterm examinations: 20%
- Final take-home examination: 50%

It should be especially noted that those who cannot take 50 points (out of 100) in the final examination will fail the course. Moreover, students’ English will definitely be taken into consideration in the grading of examination papers, and up to 25% of the total mark will be taken off for grammatical and writing mistakes.

Suggested Reading List:


