

## FW 2024-25

<b>AP/EN 4531 3.0M (W)</b>	<i>Renaissance Spectacles and Festivals: Civic and Court</i>
<b>Course Director:</b>	Theodore Fox Email: theodorefox4@gmail.com Office Hours: TBD
<b>Time:</b>	Friday 11:30–2:30
<b>Delivery Format:</b>	<b>SEMINAR</b>
<b>Description:</b>	This seminar explores early modern spectacular drama alongside the literary, cultural, and historical contexts in which plays and masques were written and produced. The course will investigate what constitutes a spectacle, encouraging students to develop an interdisciplinary understanding of the period in order to consider how political theory and visual culture inform literature, stagecraft, and performance. We will pay particular attention to moments of spectacle—of power, violence, beauty, or otherwise—to analyze how playwrights and theatre practitioners co-construct sensory experiences for audiences. To fully contextualize the plays within dramatic tradition, the course will also examine the histories and theories of the theatre, from Aristotle’s <i>Poetics</i> to medieval pageantry to contemporary performance studies. Class discussions will include topics such as religion, rulership and systems of power, disability and bodily difference, racism and racial capitalism, colonialism, gender and sexuality, metatheatre, magic and the supernatural, constructions of Otherness and monstrosity, and intertextuality.
<b>Category:</b>	C
<b>Historical Requirement:</b>	Period I (pre-1700)
<b>Requirements:</b>	Participation – 15% Short Reflections – 15% Presentation – 20% Research/Creative Project Proposal – 20% Research/Creative Project – 30%
<b>Reading List:</b>	Readings will include texts by Robert Greene, Inigo Jones, Ben Jonson, Christopher Marlowe, Thomas Middleton, John Milton, William Shakespeare, and John Webster, among other early modern writers. Additional selections from contemporary scholarship and performance (including adaptations and re-envisionings) will be provided through the course eClass alongside suggested reading materials.
<b>Open To:</b>	Year 4 Honours