Syllabus: History and Literature in Early Modern England and Ireland
RSCP 72100: Introduction to Renaissance Studies
Comp Lit 71000 /HIST 74000

Course Requirements: one oral report of no more than 20 minutes on the assigned reading for one class meeting for which you will be responsible for giving an account of the reading and generating questions for class discussion; one research paper to be completed in stages: bibliography (due 10/28), annotated bibliography (due 11/18), abstract (due 11/25), first draft (due 12/2), final draft (due 12/16).

Monday, September 2: Labor Day.

Monday, September 9: Introduction to the syllabus, selection of oral report topics, and introductory lectures:
Overview of the relationship between England and Ireland from the time of Henry VIII through to Elizabeth, highlighting the Reformation, and surrender and regrant.

Monday, September 16: Foundational texts for Elizabethan Ireland:
Giraldus Cambrensis, *Topographia Hibernica* or Gerald of Wales, *The History and Topography of Ireland*

Documents related to Surrender and Regrant

Monday, September 23: Apocalyptic rhetoric, the true church and the false church:
John Derrick, *The Image of Ireland* (1581) and
John Fox, *Actes and monuments* (1563)
Woodcuts from Derrick available at:
http://www.lib.ed.ac.uk/about/bgallery/Gallery/researchcoll/ireland.html
Texts by Derrick and Fox available through Early English Books On-line [EEBO].
Secondary reading:
Vincent Carey, “The Road to Mullaghmast,” *Irish Historical Studies*
James A. Knapp, "That moste barbarous Nation': John Derricke's *Image of Ireland* and the 'delight of the well disposed reader'" in *Illustrating the Past in Early Modern England*.

Monday, September 30: Military memoirs: writing violence

Monday, October 7: Epic: Spenser’s *The Faerie Queene*
Edmund Spenser, *The Faerie Queene* Book 1, Canto 1; Book 2, Canto 12
from *The Faerie Queene*, Book 5
Chapter on Spenser from Stephen Greenblatt, *Renaissance Self-Fashioning* from *The Faerie Queene*, Book 5
Monday, October 14: No classes.

**Tuesday, October 15:** *The Faerie Queene*, Book 6 and “The Mutabilitie Cantos” from Andrew Hadfield, *Edmund Spenser’s Irish Experience: Wild Fruit and Salvage Soyl*

**Monday, October 21:** Edmund Spenser, *A View of the Present State of Ireland.*
Text available on EEBO:
*The historie of Ireland, collected by three learned authors viz. Meredith Hanmer Doctor in Divinitie: Edmund Campion sometime fellow of St. John’s Colledge in Oxford: and Edmund Spenser Esq*, Dublin: Printed by the Societie of Stationers, printers to the Kings most excellent Majestie [and London: by Thomas Harper], 1633.

**Monday, October 28:** Shakespeare, *Henry V* *(Henry V in relation to Essex in Ireland)*
From James Shapiro, *A Year in the Life of Shakespeare: 1599.*

**Monday, November 4:** Legal rhetoric: Sir John Davies
*A discouerie of the true causes why Ireland was never entirely subdued, nor brought vnder obedience of the crowne of England, vntill the beginning of his Mauesties happie raigne*, [London]: Printed [by W. Jaggard] for John Jaggard, dwelling within Temple Bar, at the signe of the Hand and Star, 1612.

**Monday, November 11:** Indigenous Irish Responses to the Conquest:
Geoffrey Keating’s critique of English Historiography in *Foras Feasa ar Éirinn*
Bardic poems; excerpts from Luke Wadding, *Annales Minorum*

**Monday, November 18:** The Rebellion of 1641 and the War of the Three Kingdoms
The 1641 Depositions, Trinity College Dublin http://www.1641.tcd.ie/using-faq.php
Sir John Temple, *The Irish rebellion: or, An history of the beginnings and first progresse of the general rebellion raised within the kingdom of Ireland, upon the three and twentieth day of October, in the year, 1641.* London: Printed by R. White for Samuel Gellibrand, at the Brason Serpent in Pauls Church-yard, 1646.
(Available on EEBO)

**Monday, November 25:** Milton
John Milton, *Observations upon the Articles of Peace (Complete Prose Works, III)*


**Monday, December 2: Cromwell**
Oliver Cromwell, *Letters from Ireland, Speeches*
Andrew Marvell, “An Oration Ode upon Cromwell’s Return from Ireland”

**Monday, December 9: Cartography and Political Economy: Sir William Petty, The Down Survey and Political Arithmetic**
Down Survey Maps available on-line at: http://downsurvey.tcd.ie/
William Petty, *Political Arithmetic*
Secondary Reading:

Almost all of the texts for this course are available on EEBO. Secondary readings will be posted on Blackboard.

Books ordered at Book Culture: