ENGL 7242/8242: British Renaissance Literature: Race, Gender, Law Dr. Josh Phillips Tuesdays 5:30

The British Renaissance produced some of the greatest writers in English history, including Spenser, Donne, and Shakespeare. Faced with a radically changing world (including the discovery of the "new world," the heliocentric theory, the rise of Protestantism, etc.), these writers sought to re-imagine accepted historical narratives, discover new ways of identifying and communicating the truth, and test the meaning and limits of aesthetic form. We will especially attend to how these writers contributed to modern ideas of race, gender, and law. Finally, this class is specifically designed to provide graduate students with the background they need to teach a high school or college class on early modern British literature.