ENGLISH 208A: Forms of Fantasy

Instructor ............. Neil Randall
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Office Hours .......... Tuesdays and Thursdays 10:30-12:00
Course Meeting Times .. TR 1:00-2:30, AL 207

Required Texts

Borges, Jorge Luis. *Ficciones*.
Findley, Timothy. *Not Wanted on the Voyage*.
Holdstock, Robert. *Mythago Wood*.
Kay, Guy Gavriel. *Tigana*.
Rabkin, Eric S. *Fantastic Worlds*.
Tolkien, J. R. R. *The Lord of the Rings*.

Assignments

Assignment #1, due Oct 15 (30%): A journal of 2000-2500 words exploring the varieties of fantasy literature. An opportunity to examine the texts in a semi-formal manner, as you read and study them, this journal will deal with Fantastic Worlds, *Ficciones*, and *Not Wanted on the Voyage*.

Assignment #2, due Nov 21 (40%): An essay of 2000-2500 words on *The Lord of the Rings*.

Assignment #3 (40%): A final examination in which you will answer one question on *Mythago Wood* and one on *Tigana*. There will be a choice of topics.

Schedule

Sep 10 - Introduction
Sep 12 - Rabkin 27-79 (Myth)
Sep 17 - Rabkin 80-140 (Folktale and Fairytale)
Sep 19 - Rabkin 294-332, 393-429 (Heroic and Modern Fantasy)
Sep 24 - Rabkin 430-467 (Modern Fantasy)
Sep 26 - Borges
Oct 01 - Findley
Oct 03 - Findley
Oct 08 - No class
Oct 10 - Tolkien, FR
Oct 15 - Tolkien, FR
Oct 17 - Tolkien, FR
Oct 22 - Tolkien, TT
Oct 24 - Tolkien, TT
Oct 29 - Tolkien, RK
Oct 31 - Tolkien, RK
Nov 05 - Tolkien, RK
Nov 07 - Tolkien, summaries
Nov 12 - Holdstock
Nov 14 - Holdstock
Nov 19 - Kay, Part I
Nov 21 - Kay, Part II
Nov 26 - Kay, Part III and IV
Nov 28 - Visit from Guy Kay
Dec 03 - Kay and conclusions