Section 1
TuTh 2:30-3:50; HH 227
Winter 2002
Office Hours: Tuesdays 1-2, Wednesdays 2-3, or by appointment
Prof. Ken Graham
HH 246; ex. 2124
k2graham@watarts.uwaterloo.ca

Required Texts
Erasmus and Luther, Discourse on Free Will (Continuum)
Francis Petrarch, Selections from the Canzoniere (Oxford)
Desiderius Erasmus, The Praise of Polly (Norton Critical)
Niccolo Machiavelli, The Prince (Penguin)
Baldesar Castiglione, The Book of the Courtier (Norton Critical)
Martin Luther, Selections from his Writings (Anchor)
Michel de Montaigne, The Essays: A Selection (Penguin)

Aims of the Course
This course will introduce you to the works of European Renaissance literature that had the greatest influence on the English Renaissance. We will consider questions central to this literature, questions about faith and skepticism, about human freedom, about the responsibilities and techniques of authority, about the power of several species of love, about education, about the relation of ethical practice to philosophy, about the nature of justice, and about the relation of the present to the past and of the self to its models. We will pay particular attention to the way in which competing ideas of truth, freedom, and human nature transcend disciplinary boundaries and shape understanding and literary production in a variety of fields.

Methods and Requirements
The course will be a seminar, with informed, thoughtful, and courteous participation expected from everyone on a regular basis. You will follow the Renaissance practice of keeping a commonplace book in which you will copy passages that you wish to remember, adding your own thoughts to them. In addition to this informal writing, you will write two formal essays. The first will perform a careful critical analysis of one of the required texts. The second will explore the relationship between one of the class texts and one or more English works from the Renaissance period. This work will be graded as follows:

1) Attendance and participation. Attendance and punctuality count for half of this grade, with each unexcused absence dropping the attendance grade by 10% (beginning at 100). It is your responsibility to inform me promptly of the reasons for an absence if you wish it to be excused. Weight = 20%

2) The two formal essays, the first of 4-5, the second of 6-7, typed, double-spaced pages (or 1200-1500 and 1800-2100 words). Late papers will be accepted without penalty only if prior permission has been granted. Otherwise, the penalty will be 2% per day. Weight = 15% and 25%
3) Commonplace book (at least 500 words per week). I will take these in once a month. You will also be responsible for bringing your up-to-date book to class every Thursday. **Weight = 20%**

4) A final exam in the essay-question format. **Weight = 20%**

**Schedule**

**Jan.**
3  Tu  Introduction to the class
8  Tu  Erasmus-Luther, *Discourse on Free Will*
10 Th  Erasmus-Luther, *Discourse on Free Will*
15 Tu  Petrarch, "Letter to Posterity," "Ascent of Mount Ventoux"
17 Th  Petrarch, poems 1, 5, 13, 16, 22, 61, 90
22 Tu  Petrarch, poems 122, 129, 134, 151, 189, 190
24 Th  Petrarch, poems 128, 136, 264, 272, 319, 365
29 Tu  Erasmus, *Praise of Folly*
31 Th  Erasmus, *Praise of Folly*; **commonplace books due**

**Feb.**
5  Tu  Erasmus, Foreword to the 3rd Ed., *The Godly Feast*
7  Th  Erasmus, *The Complaint of Peace*
12 Tu  Machiavelli, *The Prince*
14 Th  Machiavelli, *The Prince*; **first essays due 2:30 p.m.**
18-22 **Reading Week**
26 Tu  Castiglione, *The Book of the Courtier*, Book I
28 Th  Castiglione, *Courtier*, II

**Mar.**
5  Tu  Castiglione, *Courtier*, III
7  Th  Castiglione, *Courtier*, IV; **commonplace books due**
12 Tu  Luther, *The Ninety-Five Theses*, Preface to the NT
14 Th  Luther, *The Freedom of a Christian*
19 Tu  Luther, *Secular Authority*
21 Th  Luther, *Pagan Servitude*, pp.326-40
26 Tu  Montaigne, *Essays*, "On the inconstancy of our actions," "On repenting"

28 Th  Montaigne, "On educating children," "On the cannibals"; **second essays due, 2:30 p.m.**

**Apr.**
2  Tu  Montaigne, "That it is madness to judge the true and false," "On prayer"
4  Th  Montaigne, "On experience"; **commonplace books due**

The Faculty of Arts urges instructors to include the following "Note on avoidance of academic offenses" on all course syllabi:

"All students registered in courses of the Faculty of Arts are expected to know what constitutes an academic offense, to avoid committing academic offenses, and to take responsibility for their academic actions. When the commission of an offense is established, disciplinary penalties will be imposed in accord with Policy #71 (Student Academic Discipline). For information on categories of offenses and types of penalties, students are directed to consult with the summary of Policy #71 which is supplied in the Undergraduate Calendar (section 1; on the Web at http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infoucal/UN/policy_71.html). If you need help in learning how to avoid offenses such as plagiarism, cheating, and double submission, or if you need clarification of aspects of the discipline policy, ask your course instructor for guidance. Other resources regarding the policy are your academic advisor and the Undergraduate Associate Dean." In this class plagiarism will normally result in a failing grade for the class.