

**ENGL 4650:**  
**Special Topics, 20th Century Literature**  
***HYBRID FORMS, GENRES & MODES***

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Spring Quarter, 2011  
CRN 2796  
W: 6:00 – 9:50 p.m.  
Sturm Hall 496

**Syllabus & Course Documents:**  
<http://portfolio.du.edu/showard>

**Blackboard:**  
<http://blackboard.du.edu/>

**DU Course Media:**  
<http://coursemedia.du.edu/>

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

What are literary forms, genres & modes? How useful (or not) is the concept of *hybridity*? This course involves interdisciplinary studies in literature, film, poetics, digital media, philosophy and theory. The class will investigate a series of inter-related topics (ekphrasis & remediation; image/text & text/image; para-texts & metafiction; poetics & historiography; translation & transfiguration; dialogue & heterogeneity) that will inform our investigations of and creative/scholarly engagements with a gathering of works from Shakespeare to Swensen. In addition to the books noted for purchase, we will also read and discuss selections (provided as PDFs) from a variety of philosophical & theoretical texts (including *Mille Plateaux*, *Visual Analogy*, and *The Language of New Media*) as well as selections from open-access, electronic journals (including *Free Verse*, *Reconfigurations*, and *Word For/Word*). Students seeking to place this class within the English Department's graduate program structure of course requirements & credit distributions may follow the trans-historical policy.

**TEXTS:**

- Browne, Sir Thomas. *Hydriotaphia: Urn Burial*. New York: New Directions, 2010. ISBN: 978-0-8112-1892-4.
- Carson, Anne. *NOX*. New York: New Directions, 2011. ISBN: 978-0-8112-1870-2.
- Howe, Susan. *The Nonconformist's Memorial*. New York: New Directions, 1993. ISBN: 978-0-8112-1229-8.
- Kelsey, Karla. *Iteration Nets*. Boise: Ahsahta Press, 2010. ISBN: 978-1-934103-15-9.
- Mallarmé, Stéphane. *A Tomb for Anatole*. Translated by Paul Auster. New York: New Directions, 2005. ISBN: 0811215938.
- Shakespeare, William. *The Tempest*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1994. ISBN: 0-19-283414-2.
- Swensen, Cole. *Such Rich Hour*. Iowa City: University of Iowa Press, 2001. ISBN: 0-87745-775-1.
- Tran, Truong. *Within the Margin*. Berkeley: Apogee Press, 2004. ISBN: 0-9744687-5-4.
- Williams, William Carlos. *Paterson*. Ed. Christopher MacGowan. New York: New Directions, 1995. ISBN: 081121298X.
- Yasusada, Araki, [Tosa Motokiyu, Javier Alvarez, Kent Johnson]. *Doubled Flowering: From the Notebooks of Araki Yasusada*. Roof Books, 1997. ISBN: 9780937804711.

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**INVITATIONS: call & response**

- Conversation (every class) 30%
- Presentation (one class) 10%
- Archive & Audience (one work) 20%
- Collaboration (one work) 20%
- Hand-made (one work) 20%

**CALENDAR (subject to changes):**

<b>Week 1</b> 3/23	<b><i>Ekphrasis &amp; Remediation: text &amp; image</i></b> <i>Tempest</i>
<b>Week 2</b> 3/30	<b><i>Ekphrasis &amp; Remediation: image &amp; text</i></b> <i>Tempest</i>
<b>Week 3</b> 4/6	<b><i>Ekphrasis &amp; Remediation: Texts &amp; Para-Texts</i></b> <i>Tempest, Such Rich Hour, and The Nonconformist's Memorial</i>
<b>Week 4</b> 4/13	<b><i>Para-Texts &amp; Metafiction</i></b> <i>Such Rich Hour, The Nonconformist's Memorial, and Doubled Flowering</i>
<b>Week 5</b> 4/20	<b><i>Para-Texts &amp; Metafiction</i></b> <i>Doubled Flowering, Hydriotaphia, and Paterson</i>
<b>Week 6</b> 4/27	<b><i>Poetics &amp; Historiography</i></b> <i>Paterson</i>
<b>Week 7</b> 5/4	<b><i>Historiography &amp; Poetics</i></b> <i>Paterson, A Tomb for Anatole, and NOX</i>
<b>Week 8</b> 5/11	<b><i>Translation &amp; Transfiguration</i></b> <i>A Tomb for Anatole and NOX</i>
<b>Week 9</b> 5/18	<b><i>Dialogue &amp; Heterogeneity</i></b> <i>Within the Margin and Iteration Nets</i>
<b>Week 10</b> 5/25	<b><i>Heterogeneity &amp; Dialogue</i></b> <i>Iteration Nets, Within the Margin, NOX, A Tomb for Anatole, Paterson, Hydriotaphia, Doubled Flowering, The Nonconformist's Memorial, Such Rich Hour, Tempest</i>