

Course: Tudors in Literature and Film

QUEEN ANNE BOLEYN IN LITERATURE AND FILM

ENGLISH 41300-001-15159; MARS 420

Professor Paul White

MWF 10:30 AM-11:20 AM HEAV 129



\

Anne Boleyn, the mother of Queen Elizabeth I, is among the most sensational and controversial, as well as significant, queens in English history, and she has attracted the attention of fiction writers and filmmakers, along with historians, as an enduring icon of piety, beauty, heresy, and whoredom; for many she is a model of early modern feminism. In sorting out all these contradictions and explaining her widespread international appeal, the course will begin by looking at literary theorist Susan Bordo's groundbreaking study, *The Creation of Anne Boleyn* (2013), and move from there to interrogate Anne's representation in awarding-winning novels such as Hillary Mantel's *Bring Up the Bodies* (2012), in Philippa Gregory's "pulp fiction" *The Other Boleyn Girl* (2002) on screen in *Anne of a Thousand Day* and HBO's *The Tudors*, and online in the explosion of websites and blogs devoted to Queen Anne and the Tudors since about 2005. These materials will be contextualized with reference to the representation of Ann in texts written during or close to her own sixteenth-century lifetime, e.g., the love lyrics of Sir Thomas Wyatt, the scandal-mongering ambassadorial postings of Gustave Chapuy, and the "martyrological" writing of John Foxe. Participation in class and online in Blackboard Discussions is essential; two short papers, a midterm, and a final. Email me at pwhite@purdue.edu for more details.