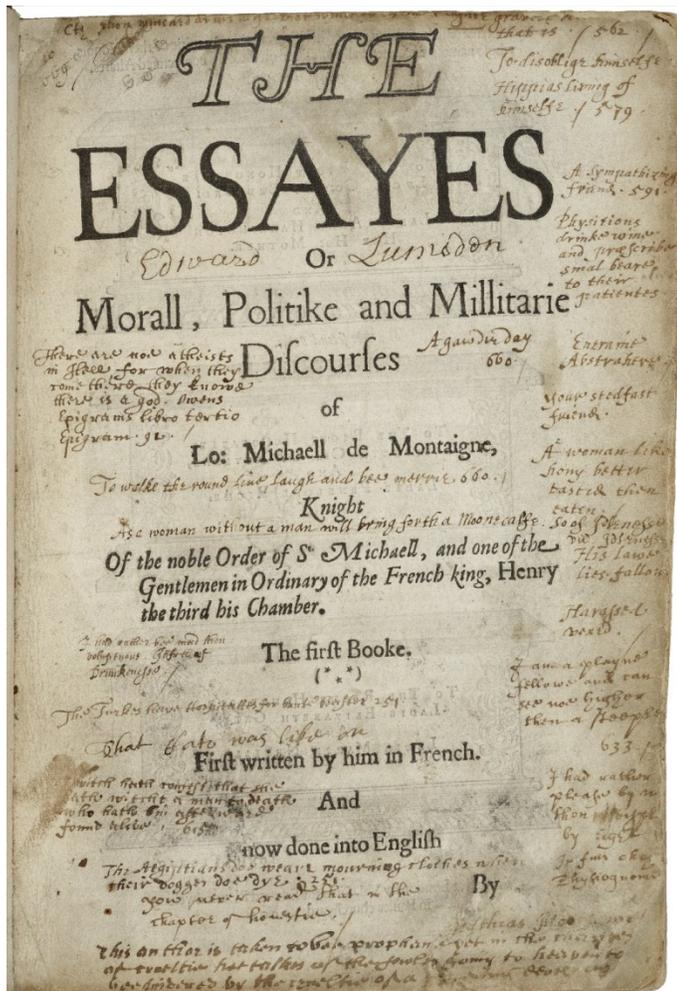


A Conversation with Owen William of the Folger Shakespeare Library

Monday, October 7, 2013

4:00 p.m. Mann Assembly Room, 103 Paterno Library

Owen Williams, the Folger Institute's Assistant Director for Scholarly Programs, is here to talk with Penn State faculty, librarians, and graduate students about the research and educational opportunities at the Folger Shakespeare Library in Washington, DC. He will focus on participation in Institute seminars, conferences, and workshops. He is also happy to discuss fellowships and other funding opportunities, the Folger collections, and Folger-based digital resources and digital humanities initiatives.



Penn State is a member of the Folger Institute's Consortium, a group of forty-four universities here and abroad that plans an annual slate of advanced scholarly programs. Our membership gives Penn State faculty and graduate students priority in admission and eligibility for grants-in-aid to fund travel and lodging. These programs regularly include a variety of topical seminars, conferences, workshops, and symposia in addition to paleography training, dissertation seminars, and M.A.-level research methods courses. Recent offerings have included a three-week institute on "Early Modern Digital Agendas" supported by the NEH Office of Digital Humanities, a workshop on teaching the History of the Book, and a faculty weekend seminar on orality and literacy.

This spring, upcoming programs include a two-day faculty seminar on "Rogues, Gypsies, and Outsiders: The Marginal People of Early Modern England" (directed by David Cressy); a one-day symposium on "Borders and Boundaries in Early Modern Jewish History"; "Shakespeare and the Problem of Biography," a major conference sponsored by an NEH Collaborative Research grant; and a month-long Mellon Summer Institute on English Paleography.

Like the Folger collection itself, the reach of the Folger programming is broad, and offerings include transatlantic and global topics as well as British literature and history. They engage scholars in a variety of fields, including European history, Asian studies, library sciences, continental literatures, theater history, and early American studies.

The Folger also sponsors short-term and long-term research fellowships, which several Penn State faculty members have enjoyed.

Owen Williams, the Folger Institute's Assistant Director for Scholarly Programs, holds his Ph.D. in English from the University of Pennsylvania. He has served as the Folger Institute's officer with day-to-day oversight of the Institute's programs for over a decade. In that role, he welcomes some two hundred advanced scholars annually to seminars, workshops, and conferences that explore a variety of early modern topics. In July, he served as Project Director for the NEH institute at the Folger, "Early Modern Digital Agendas," a Folger foray into assembling a DH community to explore the many tools and methodologies available to early modern scholars. Co-curator of the Folger Exhibition, "Fame, Fortune, and Theft: The Shakespeare First Folio," he also edited its related publication, *Foliomania! Stories Behind Shakespeare's Most Famous Book*. His personal research involves Elizabethan puritans and other religious dissidents.

This talk is sponsored by the University Libraries, The Committee for Early Modern Studies, The Department of English, and the Material Text Workshop. For more information, please contact Marcy North mln14@psu.edu.

Graduate Students are invited to a drop-in lunch with Owen Williams. 7 Burrowes Building. 12:15-2:00 p.m.