

# ENGLISH RENAISSANCE LITERATURE TEXTBOOK

## FOREWORD

English Renaissance Textbook consists of twelve chapters, each structured to help the students grasp the socio-political background and certain theoretical concepts necessary for understanding the cultural and literary spirit of the Renaissance in England, as well as understand the form of the final (written) exam as illustrated in chapter XII. In addition to that, each thematic unit offers a selection of Renaissance poetry and prose, as well as suggested and required reading sections encompassing relevant critical works and interpretations. Together with suggestions of critical works by eminent and prominent theoreticians, the Textbook offers a selection of authorial critical essays and articles, all compiled with the view of providing the students with various perspectives on Renaissance English poetry and prose, as well as underscoring the multifaceted nature of this literary period. Each chapter opens with a Handout section highlighting the most important theoretical concepts and events, and closes with a Study Guide section, both designed to guide the student in developing a broad understanding of the period, its specificities and the ideologies underlying the selected works. The ultimate aim of the Textbook is to offer the students the necessary tools for further individual work and research into the literary works of the period.