



## Realpolitik in Renaissance and Early Modern British Literature

Guest Editor:

**Dr. Carolyn Brown**

College of Arts and Sciences,  
University of San Francisco, San  
Francisco, CA 94105, USA

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### Message from the Guest Editor

Dear Colleagues,

This collection of essays will offer innovative readings of British literature of the Renaissance and early modern period that reflect the influence of realpolitik, especially as embodied in Machiavelli's writings, and *The Prince* in particular.

Topics of interest for this volume may include (but are not limited to) the following:

- the depiction of major Machiavellian tenets;
- the contrasting of the traditional concept of the divine right of kings with the secular view of power;
- the portrayal of women as astute Machiavels;
- the concealment of secret plotting through literal and figurative disguises, with the characters who are most adept at dissembling being the most challenging to detect as political strategists;
- the appearance of Machiavellian strategies in literary works that are not overtly political in nature;
- the subversiveness of literary texts that explore early modern politics;
- the literary depiction of conspiracies and planned invasions, like those occurring in early modern England.

Dr. Carolyn Brown  
*Guest Editor*

