



# Humanities- Thursday 7 July

## Morning sessions (11:15 am- 12:15 pm):

- **History- *Njinga vs. the Portuguese in Angola*:** During the seventeenth century, Queen Njinga of Ndongo and Matamba fought the Portuguese in what is now Angola. This lecture outlines her decades-long fight against Portuguese domination, highlighting her political and diplomatic skills and exploring her complex relationship with Atlantic slavery.
- **Interdisciplinary Studies Centre- *What if studying one subject isn't enough to save the world?*:** When Humboldt set up a new university in Berlin in the early 19th century, its organisation was predicated on a sharp division among the different subjects or "faculties" of knowledge. Mathematics was in one faculty; Law in another; Philosophy in another. Theology had its own faculty but was not permitted to interfere with the others. When Albert Sloman set up the University of Essex in the 1960s, he considered Humboldt's model, which by then had become standard all over the world. But he rejected it. We will think about why.
- **Law- *Modern slavery and law*:** The lecture will outline the role and relevance of different branches of law for addressing the complex and global phenomenon of modern slavery. We will explore how both domestic and international law work to bring perpetrators to justice, provide protection and support to the survivors of modern slavery, and create the basis for an effective prevention strategy to eradicate severe forms of exploitation of individuals.
- **Literature, Film and Theatre Studies- *Film and Drama - Performing Femininity: From Twelfth Night to She's the Man (2006)*:** This session will consider how gender, especially femininity, is represented or performed across time, texts and contexts. Beginning with William Shakespeare's *Twelfth Night*, we will reflect on how gender is presented in this play, before thinking about how it is adapted and reworked for contemporary audiences in the teen film *She's the Man* (2006).

## Afternoon sessions (13:00 pm- 14:00 pm):

- **Essex Hotel School- *How to make money out in hotels and events*:** This session will introduce students to the world of hospitality and events, this taster session provides a snapshot of the financial side of the sector. Hotels and events are businesses like any other, and make large profits, often for small independent owners. Throughout the session, students will be shown how to improve a business, raise its results and enjoy the extra profits.
- **Human Rights- *Human Rights: More trouble than they are worth?*:** Human rights occupy a prominent position in our current world. However, they have been subjected to criticism from many quarters in recent years. This brief session will consider the continuing value of human rights amidst an uncertain and unstable world.
- **Literature, Film and Theatre Studies- *Literature and Creative Writing - How not to write a poem*:** Poetry can sometimes seem so polished and refined that it is virtually unreadable: a well-wrought urn too nice actually to use for anything! This session focuses on a handful of self-reflective poems that explore the act of writing poetry by deliberately getting it wrong.
- **Philosophy and Art History- *Philosophical Perspectives on Melancholic Images*:** What is melancholy? And what is the difference between melancholy and melancholia? What is "Melencolia 1"? For much of the history of western medicine, melancholy was a key concept and category. It was also a favourite theme in art works. We will study some of these melancholic images, both in order to uncover something of this largely forgotten history, and in the hopes of learning something about our own contemporary approach to phenomena such as chronic sadness.