

NYU SCHOOL OF CONTINUING AND PROFESSIONAL STUDIES

**LITERATURE FOR THE 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY**

*Course No. X02.9054*

Peter Arcese, MA, JD, LLM



READINGS FOR SUMMER 2009

*The Bruise* by Magdalena Zurawski (Fiction Collective 2)

*La Medusa* by Vanessa Place (Fiction Collective 2)

*The Plague of Doves* by Louise Erdrich (Harper Perennial)

*The Great Weaver from Kashmir* by Halldor Laxness (Archipelago)

*Away* by Amy Bloom (Random House)

*Jane Eyre* adapted by Polly Teale (Nick Hern Books)

*Selected Poems* of Carol Ann Duffy (Penguin)



IN THIS COURSE, we read a sampling of authors likely to set literary trends well into the millennium. We examine such literary issues as postmodernism and magical realism, and consider the controversies over multiculturalism and the nature of the literary canon. Each book signals new concerns or techniques that writers and readers will be exploring for decades to come.

PETER ARCESE, poet, playwright, director, and attorney has been on the faculty of NYU's School of Continuing and Professional Studies since 1997, teaching such courses as: *Brilliant Minds*, *Great Books*, *Shakespeare*, *Classical Literature*, *Literature for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*, and *Humanities III & IV*. His work in the arts began in 1984 with the opening of his verse play, *The Breakfast*, in New York City at the Douglas Fairbanks Studio Theatre. Recently, he directed the world premiere of *Behind the Eyes* and *Threesome*, a series of one-act plays by the late William Packard. He also earned the praise of Kurt Vonnegut for his staged reading of *Joseph in the Pit: The Third Dream*, a verse drama written by Walter James Miller and funded in part by the Ruttenberg Foundation and the New York Foundation for the Arts (DVD, Athanata Arts 2003). His translations of poetry and drama from the classical Greek include Aeschylus's *Agamemnon* into English syllabic verse (Lintel 2001) and selected fragments of Sappho (*The New York Quarterly*, No. 58). He is the recipient of NYU's *Award for Teaching Excellence* and is co-founder and President of Athanata Arts, Ltd., a production and publishing company dedicated to promoting interdisciplinary approaches to the arts.