

Alan Cardew

ACADEMIC BIOGRAPHY

In 1980 I entered the Department of Language and Linguistics at the University of Essex. For a time, I taught Descriptive Grammar, and I developed an interest in Cognitive Linguistics. I taught courses on Stylistics and Rhetoric with the Department of Literature. Essex is an institution which is built on bringing disciplines together and I was able to move freely between them.

I became a member of the Centre for Theoretical Studies which was concerned with the philosophy of the humanities. In 2003 I was made Director of the Enlightenment; an interdisciplinary course which brings together students and lecturers from a number of Departments: Art History, Literature, Philosophy, Government (Politics), Sociology, and History. As Director I gave lectures on Descartes, Locke, Newton, Rousseau, and Voltaire. I joined the Department of Literature in 2005 as a senior lecturer. In the same year I became the Director of U.S. Studies; I travelled extensively in the U.S. and liaised with many American Universities. Then, in 2008, I was appointed Head of the new Centre for Interdisciplinary Studies in the Humanities with, overall responsibility for European Studies, Latin American Studies, the Humanities, and U.S. Studies.

I was fortunate to have had a wide international links in my career, lecturing in Poland, working with the Ministry of Education in Japan, and with Universities in the U.S.

I have had a long-standing interest in analytical psychology, and helped set up, with colleagues in the Centre for Psychoanalytic Studies, a new Centre for the study of Myth and the Unconscious. Latterly, most of my research and papers have been on Neoplatonism, and I have given lectures in Italy and Greece on ancient cosmology, myth and education. I have recently been invited to become a member of the Foro Di Studi Avanzati in Rome.