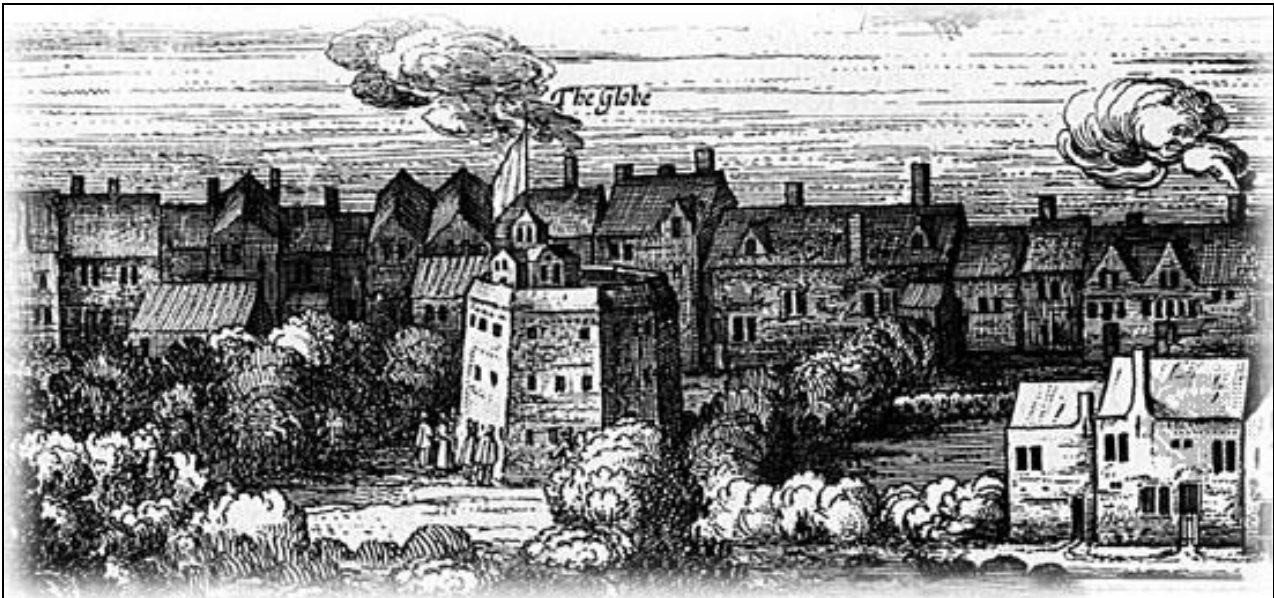


# ENGL/THEA 208 Shakespeare

Trimester 2, 2009

22 Points



## TRIMESTER DATES

Teaching dates: 13 July to 16 October 2009  
Study week: 19 to 23 October 2009  
Examination/Assessment period: 27 October to 15 November 2009

**Note:** Students who enrol in courses with examinations are expected to be able to attend an examination at the University at any time during the formal examination period.

## NAMES AND CONTACT DETAILS

Staff	Email	Phone	Room	Office Hours
Geoff Miles (course coordinator, English)	<a href="mailto:geoff.miles@vuw.ac.nz">geoff.miles@vuw.ac.nz</a>	463 6809	VZ 915	Tuesday 3-4 pm
Matt Wagner (course coordinator, Theatre)	<a href="mailto:matthew.wagner@vuw.ac.nz">matthew.wagner@vuw.ac.nz</a>	463 6712	310, 77FT	
Linda Hardy	<a href="mailto:linda.hardy@vuw.ac.nz">linda.hardy@vuw.ac.nz</a>	463 6806	VZ 803	

**CLASS TIMES AND LOCATIONS****Lectures**

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, 12–1, in Maclaurin LT 102.

**Tutorials**

Times and rooms to be arranged.

**COURSE DELIVERY**

The course is taught in three lectures and one tutorial per week. Tutorials will begin in the second week of the trimester. Students will be expected to complete a worksheet in preparation for each tutorial (starting with the second); these will be available on Blackboard.

**COMMUNICATION OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

Tutorial lists, essay topics, and other information (including the time and place of the final examination when this is announced after mid-trimester break) will be posted on the course Blackboard site (<http://blackboard.vuw.ac.nz>). Brief lecture summaries and/or PowerPoint slides will also be posted on Blackboard (note that these are *not* a substitute for attendance at lectures!).

Hard-copy course information will also be posted on the English noticeboard, on the third floor outside Hugh Mackenzie 206, and on the Theatre noticeboards at 77 Fairlie Terrace.

**COURSE CONTENT**

The course is based on five of Shakespeare's plays (*Richard III*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Hamlet*, *Measure for Measure*, and *The Winter's Tale*), ranging from the beginning to the end of his dramatic career, and across the three major dramatic genres (history, comedy, tragedy) in which he wrote. It treats Shakespeare both as Renaissance poet and as practical playwright, his plays both as literary texts and as scripts for performance on stage (and on screen). A central concern is 'the idea of the play': Shakespeare's experiments with dramatic form, his changing sense of the relationship between theatrical illusion and 'real life', and his various uses of the theatre and the actor as images for human life and human identity.

**READINGS**

*The Norton Shakespeare*, ed. Stephen Greenblatt et al. (Norton, 1997; 2nd edition, 2008). (Either edition is fine.) This includes the five course texts—in teaching order, *Richard III*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Hamlet*, *Measure for Measure*, and *The Winter's Tale*—as well as all Shakespeare's other plays and poems. It is marginally cheaper than the sum of the recommended individual editions of the prescribed plays, and it includes a great deal of background information which will be referred to in lectures.

**Recommended alternative editions** (we strongly advise you not to rely on old, out of date, or minimally annotated editions of these plays): *Richard III*, ed. Lull (New Cambridge); *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, ed. Holland (Oxford World's Classics); *Hamlet*, ed. Edwards (New Cambridge); *Measure for Measure*, ed. Gibbons (New Cambridge); *The Winter's Tale*, ed. Orgel (Oxford World's Classics).

*ENGL/THEA 208 Coursebook* (Student Notes, approx \$7.00).

**Secondary reading:** A list of recommended reading will be posted on Blackboard.

**Note:** For the first two weeks of trimester all undergraduate textbooks and student notes will be sold from the Memorial Theatre foyer, while postgraduate textbooks and student notes will be available from the top floor of VicBooks in the Student Union Building, Kelburn Campus. After week two all undergraduate textbooks will be sold from VicBooks and student notes from the Student Notes Distribution Centre on the ground floor of the Student Union Building. You can order textbooks and student notes online at [www.vicbooks.co.nz](http://www.vicbooks.co.nz) or can email an order or enquiry to [enquiries@vicbooks.co.nz](mailto:enquiries@vicbooks.co.nz). Books can be couriered to you or they can be picked up from the shop. You will be contacted when they are available.

**LEARNING OBJECTIVES**

By the end of the course you should

- (a) be familiar with all of the five Shakespeare plays on the course, their characters, plots, and preoccupations;
- (b) have a basic understanding of some of the major differences between the language of Shakespeare and contemporary English;
- (c) be familiar with the stage conventions of the Renaissance and be able to comment on theatrical issues in the plays;
- (d) be able to analyse passages from the plays in detail, with close attention to both language and stage context;
- (e) be able to compare and contrast plays in relation to their treatment of recurring Shakespearean themes and concerns;
- (f) be able to discuss the development of Shakespeare's language, dramaturgy, and ideas in the course of his dramatic career.

**EXPECTED WORKLOAD**

You should expect to spend, on average, about **11 hours per week** on work for this paper, *in addition to* the four hours of lectures and tutorials. Note that this is a rough guideline only, which will vary from student to student and from week to week.

**ASSESSMENT REQUIREMENTS**

Assessment for the paper is based on a mixture of in-term work (50%) and final examination (50%); **or** 100% for the examination, if that grade is higher than the combined in-term and exam grade.

**Term work (50%):** Three pieces of work will be required.

- (1) **Class test** (10%), on **Tuesday 4 August** (in the lecture hour). This will test your factual knowledge of the first play (*Richard III*), your ability to paraphrase a brief passage from it, and your ability to discuss the staging of an excerpt from the play. Course texts may NOT be taken into the test. (Tests objectives a, b, and c.)
- (2) **Essay**, of 1200-1500 words (20%), due **Monday 7 September** (just after the mid-trimester break). This essay will ask you to write a comparative critical analysis of two passages from *Richard III* and *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, discussing both literary and theatrical aspects. (Tests objectives c and d.)
- (3) **Essay**, of 1500-1800 words (20%), due **Friday 2 October**. This essay will give you the option of writing *either* a comparative discussion of the treatment of a particular theme or motif in several of the plays on the course, *or* a discussion of the interpretations of a particular play in stage or screen production. (Tests objectives c, e, and f.)

All in-term work must be presented in accordance with the minimum standards outlined in the *Guidelines* which will be available on Blackboard (see **Website** below).

**Examination (3 hours, 50%):** The final exam will take place during the end-of-year exam period (27 October–14 November), and will consist of three sections.

- (a) 'Critical Analysis': a comparative discussion of a passage from *Hamlet* and a passage from either *Measure for Measure* or *The Winter's Tale* (30%);
- (b) 'Performance Issues': an essay on some aspect of the plays in performance (30%);
- (c) 'General Questions': an essay on a major theme or motif, referring closely to at least three plays (40%).

Course texts may be taken into the exam.

## ASSIGNMENT COVER SHEETS

Assignment cover sheets and extension forms can be found on Blackboard or outside the Programme office. Remember to fill in your tutor's name.

## PENALTIES AND EXTENSIONS

If work is handed in late (without an extension), then one grade is subtracted and no comments are offered.

### Extensions

If you require an extension, you must complete an extension request form (available on your course Blackboard site) prior to the assignment due date. This must be accompanied by relevant documentation (e.g. a doctor's certificate) where appropriate. Extension requests must be submitted to the Course Co-ordinator. Tutors cannot grant extensions.

## MANDATORY COURSE REQUIREMENTS

To gain a pass in this course you must:

- Submit the written work specified for this course, on or by the specified dates (subject to any extensions granted).
- Attend 70% of tutorials (i.e. at least seven out of eleven).

Please note: 'A student who has received an overall mark of 50% or more, but failed to satisfy a mandatory requirement for a course, will receive a K grade for the course, while a course mark less than 50% will result in the appropriate fail grade (D, E, or F)' (2008 Calendar, Assessment Statute, 4.3(b), p. 99).

## ACADEMIC INTEGRITY AND PLAGIARISM

Academic integrity means that university staff and students, in their teaching and learning are expected to treat others honestly, fairly and with respect at all times. It is not acceptable to mistreat academic, intellectual or creative work that has been done by other people by representing it as your own original work.

Academic integrity is important because it is the core value on which the University's learning, teaching and research activities are based. Victoria University's reputation for academic integrity adds value to your qualification.

The University defines plagiarism as presenting someone else's work as if it were your own, whether you mean to or not. 'Someone else's work' means anything that is not your own idea. Even if it is presented in your own style, you must acknowledge your sources fully and appropriately. This includes:

- Material from books, journals or any other printed source
- The work of other students or staff
- Information from the internet
- Software programs and other electronic material
- Designs and ideas
- The organisation or structuring of any such material

Find out more about plagiarism, how to avoid it and penalties, on the University's website:

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/plagiarism.aspx>

## GENERAL UNIVERSITY POLICIES AND STATUTES

You should familiarise themselves with the University's policies and statutes, particularly the Assessment Statute, the Personal Courses of Study Statute, the Statute on Student Conduct and any statutes relating to the particular qualifications being studied; see the Victoria University Calendar or go to the Academic Policy and Student Policy sections on: <http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/policy>

The AVC (Academic) website also provides information in a number of areas including Academic Grievances, Student and Staff conduct, Meeting the needs of students with impairments, and student support/VUWSA student advocates. This website can be accessed at: <http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/avcacademic/Publications.aspx>

## COURSE PROGRAMME

[LH Linda Hardy GM Geoff Miles MW Matt Wagner]

Week 1	M 13 July	Introduction	GM
	Tu 14 July	The idea of the play	GM
	Th 16 July	Renaissance staging	DOD
Week 2	M 20 July	From morality play to <i>Richard III</i>	GM
	Tu 21 July	<i>Richard III</i>	GM
	Th 23 July	<i>Richard III</i>	GM
Week 3	M 27 July	<i>Richard III</i>	GM
	Tu 28 July	<i>Richard III</i> : theatrical issues	MW
	Th 30 July	<i>Richard III</i> : theatrical issues	MW
Week 4	M 3 Aug	Shakespeare's language 1	GM
	Tu 4 Aug	CLASS TEST (compulsory)	–
	Th 6 Aug	<i>A Midsummer Night's Dream</i>	MW
Week 5	M 10 Aug	<i>A Midsummer Night's Dream</i>	MW
	Tu 11 Aug	<i>A Midsummer Night's Dream</i>	MW
	Th 13 Aug	Renaissance staging 2	DOD
Week 6	M 17 Aug	<i>A Midsummer Night's Dream</i> : theatrical issues	MW
	Tu 18 Aug	<i>A Midsummer Night's Dream</i> : theatrical issues	MW
	Th 20 Aug	Shakespeare's language 2	GM
<b>Mid Trimester Break:</b> Monday 24 August– Friday 4 September 2009			
Week 7	M 7 Sept	<i>Hamlet</i> ; FIRST ESSAY DUE	GM
	Tu 8 Sept	<i>Hamlet</i>	LH
	Th 10 Sept	<i>Hamlet</i>	LH
Week 8	M 14 Sept	<i>Hamlet</i>	LH
	Tu 15 Sept	<i>Hamlet</i> : theatrical issues	MW
	Th 17 Sept	<i>Hamlet</i> : theatrical issues	DOD
Week 9	M 21 Sept	Shakespeare on film	MW
	Tu 22 Sept	<i>Measure for Measure</i>	LH
	Th 24 Sept	<i>Measure for Measure</i>	LH

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 ENGLISH/THEATRE PROGRAMMES    COURSE OUTLINE ENGL/THEA 208

Week 10	M 28 Sept	<i>Measure for Measure</i>	LH
	Tu 29 Sept	<i>Measure for Measure</i> : theatrical issues	MW
	Th 1 Oct	<i>Measure for Measure</i> : theatrical issues SECOND ESSAY DUE	MW
Week 11	M 5 Oct	<i>The Winter's Tale</i>	MW
	Tu 6 Oct	<i>The Winter's Tale</i>	MW
	Th 8 Oct	<i>The Winter's Tale</i>	MW
Week 12	M 12 Oct	<i>The Winter's Tale</i> : theatrical issues	MW
	Tu 13 Oct	<i>The Winter's Tale</i> : theatrical issues	MW
	Th 15 Oct	The idea of the play: retrospect	GM/MW/LH

**Study Period:** Monday 19 to Friday 23 October 2009

**Examination Period:** Tuesday 27 October – Sunday 15 November 2009