

THEA 207 / ENGL 221 Classic Theatre



Greg Hicks as Leontes RSC 2009 Production of *A Winter's Tale*; Photo by Alistair Muir

Trimester 2 2010

Monday 12 July to Saturday 13 November 2010

20 Points

TRIMESTER DATES

Teaching dates: Monday 12 July 2010 to Friday 15 October 2010

Mid-trimester break: Monday 23 August to Sunday 5 September 2010

Last piece of assessment due: Friday 15 October 2010

WITHDRAWAL DATES

Information on withdrawals and refunds may be found at

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/admisenrol/payments/withdrawalsrefunds.aspx>

NAMES AND CONTACT DETAILS**Course Coordinator:**

Megan Evans (ME)	megan.evans@vuw.ac.nz	463-9793	Room 302, FT77
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Additional Lecturing:

Anna Kamaralli (AK)	anna.kamaralli@vuw.ac.nz	463-6712	Room 310, FT77
David Carnegie (DC)	david.carnegie@vuw.ac.nz	463-6825	Room 308, FT77

Seminars: will be led by Anna Kamaralli (see contact info above).

CLASS TIMES AND LOCATIONS

Lectures	Mon and Wed	10-10:50am	Room 306, FT 77
Seminars	Wed	12-2pm	Room TBA

COURSE DELIVERY

THEA 207/ENGL 221 consists of two lectures per week on historical background of the plays studied. At the end of each module one of the lectures will consist of performances by the THEA 204 students of scenes from the plays studied. There is also a two-hour seminar per week and students will be expected to actively contribute to the discussion.

COMMUNICATION OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Any alterations or additional information will be announced in lectures, on Blackboard and on the class noticeboard on the top floor of 77FT. It is the student's responsibility to arrive punctually to class and to regularly check Blackboard and noticeboards, to ensure all new information is received. Also ensure your correct email address is listed on VUW Student Records, and check your email regularly.

COURSE CONTENT

This course provides a critical study of the dynamics of performing plays from three major periods of Western drama: Renaissance England, Neoclassical France, and Ancient Greece. Investigation of historical conditions of performance will form the basis for seminar discussion and analysis of performed scenes from selected plays.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

By the end of the course students should:

- be conversant with the principal features of theatrical style, convention, and place in society of three periods of Western theatre history;
- be aware of the performance possibilities of selected plays;
- have a secure grounding in the dramaturgy of three traditions.

EXPECTED WORKLOAD

The university anticipates that you should be able to devote about 14 hours per week to a 20-point course at 200 level. Therefore you should probably expect to spend, on average, about 10 hours per week (apart from lecture and seminar time) in reading, preparation, thinking and writing your assignments. Some students can pass (though not necessarily well) on less, and some will find they need or want to do more.

READINGS

Essential texts: THEA 204/THEA 207/ ENGL 221 course reader, available from Student Notes (price tba).

This reader contains all three plays studied and historical background material for each period. It is, however, recommended, that students read more broadly on the topics studied.

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.

Customers can order textbooks and student notes online at www.vicbooks.co.nz or can email an order or enquiry to enquiries@vicbooks.co.nz. Books can be couriered to customers or they can be picked up from nominated collection points at each campus. Customers will be contacted when they are available.

Opening hours are 8.00 am – 6.00 pm, Monday – Friday during term time (closing at 5.00 pm in the holidays). Phone: 463 5515.

Recommended Reading: *Living Theatre* Italy Chapter, on e-reserve through the VUW Library;

Brockett & Hilday, *History of the Theatre* (various editions) (more detailed historical information on the relevant periods), on 3-day reserve.

ASSESSMENT REQUIREMENTS

This course is internally assessed, with assessment comprising four assignments:

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| 1. Dramaturgical Report: due 12 noon, Wed 11 August (1500 words) | 25% |
| 2. In-class test: noon – 12:50pm, Wed 22 September (50 minutes) | 15% |
| 3. Essay: due 5pm, Fri 15 October (2500 words) | 40% |
| 4. Seminar Presentation: dates to be announced (20 minutes) | 20% |

Further details on these assignments will be available early in the trimester.

Relation of assessment to objectives:

The **dramaturgical report** allows a close analysis of how the dramaturgical strategies employed in *The Winter's Tale* function in performance. The **in-class test** provides an opportunity to demonstrate an understanding of the texts and theatrical conventions of several periods studied. The **essay** allows students to demonstrate an understanding of the intellectual and social environment within which theatrical conventions of periods studied have their meaning. The **seminar presentation** encourages research into the production history of a particular text, or a closer examination of specific aspects of a theatrical movement.

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.

EXTENSIONS AND PENALTIES

Extensions will be granted only in exceptional and unforeseen circumstances. Issues of workload do not constitute exceptional and unforeseen circumstances. 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. Work that is submitted late without an extension is subject to penalties.

Work submitted after the deadline will be penalised by a 2.5 percent deduction from your total mark per work day. Late work also receives only minimal comments from your marker.

MANDATORY COURSE REQUIREMENTS

In order to pass the course, a high standard of attendance (at least 80% of lectures, 9 out of 11 seminars, all 3 scene presentations – attendance will be noted) and completion of all assignments is required.

CLASS REPRESENTATIVES

A class representative will be elected in the first class, and that person's name and contact details will be available to VUWSA, the Course Coordinator and the class. The class representative provides a communication channel to liaise with the Course Coordinator on behalf of students.

STATEMENT ON LEGIBILITY

You are expected to present work that meets appropriate standards. Work submitted during the course (i. e. work that is internally assessed) should be typed or prepared on a computer. Work submitted on the test will obviously be handwritten. You are expected to write clearly. Where work is deemed 'illegible', you

will be given a photocopy of the work and asked to transcribe it to an acceptable standard (preferably typed) within a specified time frame.

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>

Work provided for assessment in this course may be checked for academic integrity by internet search.

GENERAL UNIVERSITY POLICIES AND STATUTES

The following text must be included in all course outlines.

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_victoria/avcacademic/Publications.aspx

COURSE PROGRAMME

Week 1	Mon 12 July	Introduction (ME/AK/JD)
	Wed 14 July	Renaissance staging (AK)
Week 2	Mon 19 July	<i>The Winter's Tale</i> Text Analysis (AK)
	Wed 21 July	<i>The Winter's Tale</i> Text Analysis (AK)
Week 3	Mon 26 July	<i>The Winter's Tale</i> Text Analysis (AK)
	Wed 28 July	<i>The Winter's Tale</i> Text Analysis (AK)
Week 4	Mon 2 Aug	<i>The Winter's Tale</i> in Performance (AK)
	Wed 4 Aug	<i>THE WINTER'S TALE</i> PERFORMANCES (Studio 77)
Week 5	Mon 9 Aug	Discussion of <i>The Winter's Tale</i> performances (AK/ME)
	Wed 11 Aug	Introduction to French Neoclassical Theatre (ME) WINTER'S TALE ANALYTICAL REPORT DUE, 12 noon, Wed 11 August
Week 6	Mon 16 Aug	French staging (ME)
	Wed 18 Aug	<i>Tartuffe</i> Text Analysis (ME)
Mid Trimester Break: Monday 23 August– Friday 3 September 2010		
Week 7	Mon 6 Sept	<i>Tartuffe</i> Text Analysis (ME)
	Wed 8 Sept	<i>Tartuffe</i> Text Analysis (ME)
Week 8	Mon 13 Sept	<i>Tartuffe</i> in Performance (ME)
	Wed 15 Sept	<i>TARTUFFE</i> PERFORMANCES (93 KP)
Week 9	Mon 20 Sept	Discussion of <i>Tartuffe</i> performances
	Wed 22 Sept	Introduction to Greek Tragedy (DC) TEST: Wed 22 Sept noon-12.50pm
Week 10	Mon 27 Sept	Classical Festivals and Staging (DC)
	Wed 29 Sept	<i>Lysistrata</i> Text Analysis (DC)
Week 11	Mon 4 Oct	<i>Lysistrata</i> Text Analysis (DC)
	Wed 6 Oct	<i>Lysistrata</i> Text Analysis (DC)
Week 12	Mon 11 Oct	<i>Lysistrata</i> in Performance (DC)
	Wed 13 Oct	<i>LYSISTRATA</i> PERFORMANCES (Amphitheatre) Essay due 5 pm, Fri 15 October