

ENGL/THEA 208 Shakespeare

Trimester 2, 2011

11 July to 12 November 2011

20 Points



TRIMESTER DATES

Teaching dates:	11 July to 14 October 2011
Mid-trimester break:	22 August to 4 September 2011
Study week:	17 to 21 October 2011
Examination/Assessment period:	21 October to 12 November 2011

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.

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

Staff	Email	Phone	Room	Office Hours
Geoff Miles	geoff.miles@vuw.ac.nz	463 6809	VZ 915	Tuesday 3-4
Linda Hardy	linda.hardy@vuw.ac.nz	463 6806	VZ 812	
David Lawrence	david.lawrence@vuw.ac.nz	tba	tba	
Lori Leigh	lori.leigh@vuw.ac.nz	463 6991	309 FT77	

CLASS TIMES AND LOCATIONS

Lectures

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, 12–12.50, in Hunter LT 323.

Tutorials

Times and rooms to be arranged in the first week of teaching.

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.

If you are not going to use the Victoria email address set up for you, we strongly encourage you to set a forward from the Victoria email system to the email address you do use.

COURSE PRESCRIPTION

A study of five plays, both as literary texts and as scripts for performance on stage and screen. The course focuses particularly on 'the idea of the play': Shakespeare's experiments with dramatic form and his changing sense of the relationship between theatrical illusion and reality.

COURSE CONTENT

The course is based on five of Shakespeare's plays (*Richard III*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Hamlet*, *Measure for Measure*, and *Cymbeline*), 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.

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;
- be able to discuss the development of Shakespeare's language, dramaturgy, and ideas in the course of his dramatic career.

EXPECTED WORKLOAD

The expected workload for a 20 point course is 200 hours spread evenly over the 12 week trimester and breaks, or 13 hours per teaching week.

READINGS

Essential Texts:

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 *Cymbeline*—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); *Cymbeline*, ed. Warren (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.

All undergraduate textbooks and student notes will be sold from the Memorial Theatre foyer from 4 to 22 July 2011, 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 of the trimester all undergraduate textbooks and student notes will be sold from vicbooks on Level 4 of the Student Union Building.

You 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 you or they can be picked up from nominated collection points at each campus. You will be contacted when they are available.

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 2 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 5 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 30 September**. 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 (21 October–12 November), and will consist of three sections.

- (a) 'Critical Analysis': a comparative discussion of two passages out of a choice of three, one each from *Hamlet*, *Measure for Measure*, and *Cymbeline* (30%);
- (b) 'Performance Issues': an essay on a specified scene from one 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.

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. Tutors cannot grant extensions.

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

To be eligible 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).

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. Where handwritten work is required you are expected to write clearly. If this 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>

WHERE TO FIND MORE DETAILED INFORMATION

Find key dates, explanations of grades and other useful information at www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study. Find out how academic progress is monitored and how enrolment can be restricted at www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/academic-progress. Most statutes and policies are available at www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/policy, except qualification statutes, which are available via the Calendar webpage at www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/calendar.aspx (See Section C).

Other useful information for students may be found at the website of the Assistant Vice-Chancellor (Academic), at www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about_victoria/avcademic.

COURSE PROGRAMME

[GM Geoff Miles LH Linda Hardy DL David Lawrence LL Lori Leigh]

Week 1	M 11 July	Introduction	GM
	Tu 12 July	Renaissance staging 1	DL/LL
	W 13 July	The idea of the play	GM
Week 2	M 18 July	From morality play to <i>Richard III</i>	GM
	Tu 19 July	<i>Richard III</i>	GM
	W 20 July	<i>Richard III</i>	GM
Week 3	M 25 July	<i>Richard III</i>	GM
	Tu 26 July	<i>Richard III</i> : theatrical issues	DL
	W 27 July	<i>Richard III</i> : theatrical issues	DL
Week 4	M 1 Aug	Shakespeare's language 1	GM
	Tu 2 Aug	CLASS TEST (compulsory)	–
	W 3 Aug	<i>A Midsummer Night's Dream</i>	LH
Week 5	M 8 Aug	<i>A Midsummer Night's Dream</i>	LH
	Tu 9 Aug	<i>A Midsummer Night's Dream</i>	LH
	W 10 Aug	Renaissance staging 2	DL/LL
Week 6	M 15 Aug	<i>A Midsummer Night's Dream</i> : theatrical issues	DL
	Tu 16 Aug	<i>A Midsummer Night's Dream</i> : theatrical issues	DL
	W 17 Aug	Shakespeare's language 2	GM
Mid Trimester Break: Monday 22 August– Friday 2 September 2009			
Week 7	M 5 Sept	<i>Hamlet</i> ; FIRST ESSAY DUE	GM
	Tu 6 Sept	<i>Hamlet</i>	DL
	W 7 Sept	<i>Hamlet</i>	DL
Week 8	M 12 Sept	<i>Hamlet</i>	DL
	Tu 13 Sept	<i>Hamlet</i> : theatrical issues	LL
	W 14 Sept	<i>Hamlet</i> : theatrical issues	DL
Week 9	M 19 Sept	Shakespeare on film	DL/LL
	Tu 20 Sept	<i>Measure for Measure</i>	LL
	F 21 Sept	<i>Measure for Measure</i>	LL
Week 10	M 26 Sept	<i>Measure for Measure</i>	LL
	Tu 27 Sept	<i>Measure for Measure</i> : theatrical issues	LL
	W 28 Sept	<i>Measure for Measure</i> : theatrical issues	LL
	F 30 Sept	SECOND ESSAY DUE	
Week 11	M 3 Oct	<i>Cymbeline</i>	GM
	Tu 4 Oct	<i>Cymbeline</i>	GM
	W 5 Oct	<i>Cymbeline</i>	GM
Week 12	M 10 Oct	<i>Cymbeline</i> : theatrical issues	LL
	Tu 11 Oct	<i>Cymbeline</i> : theatrical issues	LL
	W 12 Oct	The idea of the play: retrospect	All

Study Period: Monday 17 to Friday 21 October 2011**Examination Period:** Friday 21 October – Saturday 12 November 2011