

ENGL 116 Reading Shakespeare: An Introduction

Trimester 3 2012

19 November – 21 December 2012

20 Points



TRIMESTER DATES

Teaching dates: 19 November – 21 December 2012

Last piece of assessment due: 21 December 2012

WITHDRAWAL DATES

Information on withdrawals and refunds may be found at

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

NAMES AND CONTACT DETAILS

Staff	Phone	Room	Office Hours	Email
Tatjana Schaefer	463 6802	VZ917	Thursday 11.30-12	Tatjana.Schaefer@vuw.ac.nz

CLASS TIMES AND LOCATIONS**Lectures**

Mon, Wed, Thu 9:00am – 10:50am

Hugh McKenzie Lecture Theatre HMLT105

Tutorials

Tutorials begin in WEEK 1. This means students must sign up to tutorials via S-Cubed **the week before** the course starts. Please register for tutorials via the ENGL116 site on Blackboard: go to “Tutorials” and then follow the instructions under the “S-Cubed - Tutorial Enrolment Instructions” link. Please read the instructions carefully. Tutorial rooms will be listed on S-Cubed, Blackboard and on the bulletin board outside Hugh McKenzie Lecture Theatre HMLT206.

TEACHING LEARNING SUMMARY

The two-hour lectures will incorporate some amount of class discussion and small-group work. Students should come to each class having read and thought about the reading for the day, and be prepared to respond to questions and to take part in both small-group and general discussion. Tutorials are designed for further discussion and to prepare students for the weekly assessments. Students are expected and required to attend at least 70% of classes, that is 4 of the 5 tutorials **AND** 11 of the 15 lectures.

COMMUNICATION OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Course information (including essay topics, exam information, and updates to the course schedule) will be distributed in classes and posted on the English noticeboard, on the third floor outside Hugh Mackenzie 206; it will also be posted on the course’s Blackboard online site at <http://blackboard.vuw.ac.nz>. If you have any problems accessing Blackboard, contact Tatjana Schaefer. Material on Blackboard will include some supplementary lecture material, but because lectures are partly discussion-based and often include film clips, lecture notes will not be posted on Blackboard; there is no substitute for attending the lectures! 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

ENGL 116 is an introduction to the reading of Shakespeare focused on close study of a single play with associated material. The main focus will be on understanding the text, with detailed attention to Shakespeare's language, imagery, and rhetoric, as well as to the play's themes and dramatic construction. The play will be opened out by study of related materials: sources, contemporary documents, critical discussions, adaptations, and audio-visual versions of the play in performance.

COURSE CONTENT

The course is an introduction to Shakespeare, focusing on the reading of a single play, *Macbeth*, and associated material. The focus is on close and detailed reading of the text of the play, familiarising students with early 17th century English and with Shakespeare’s use of poetic forms, rhetoric, and imagery. We will

look at Shakespeare's techniques of plot construction and character creation, and at the text's implicit cues and possibilities for performance in the Elizabethan theatre and on modern stages and screens.

We will also look at some surrounding texts which shed light on *Macbeth*: extracts from Shakespeare's sources and documents revealing Renaissance views and debates about the play's key concerns; critical articles and book chapters about the play; and a range of film and television versions, adaptations, and parodies of the play.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

The course is designed for those interested in Shakespeare, and especially as a preparatory course for those going on to take more advanced Shakespeare courses such as ENGL/THEA 208. By the end of the course students should:

- have an in-depth knowledge and understanding of *Macbeth*;
- have a detailed and precise comprehension of Shakespeare's language (including his vocabulary, syntax, verse forms, imagery, poetic and rhetorical effects), enabling them to provide detailed paraphrases and analyses of passages from *Macbeth*, and to approach other Shakespearean texts with adequate comprehension;
- be able to respond critically to the text and its concerns;
- understand the structure, techniques, and conventions of the Elizabethan stage;
- have some knowledge of relevant aspects of English Renaissance history and culture.

EXPECTED WORKLOAD

The guideline for a 20-point 100-level course is at least 200 hours of reading and study (including class attendance) across the trimester. Since ENGL 116 is accelerated to five weeks, workloads must be adjusted accordingly. This means that you will have to spend much of the week studying and reading, especially in the last two weeks when the major assessments take place.

READINGS

Essential texts:

William Shakespeare, *Macbeth*, ed. Nicholas Brooke, Oxford World Classics (Oxford, 1990). You are strongly recommended to get this edition, or at least another edition with full on-page annotation; students will be expected to make use of the notes during class.

ENGL 116 Reading Shakespeare: Contexts for 'Macbeth' (Student Notes)

All textbooks and student notes for the third trimester will be available from vicbooks on Level 4 of the Student Union Building. You can order textbooks and student notes online at www.vicbooks.co.nz or you 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.

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.

ASSESSMENT REQUIREMENTS

The course is internally assessed. The pieces of work required are:

- (1) Three exercises (10% each) involving the paraphrase and explanation of a short passage from the play (see the course programme below for dates). This tests the first and second course objectives.
- (2) A 2-hour test (30%) to be held in the Thursday 13 December lecture. The test is in two parts: a critical analysis of a scene (or excerpt from a scene) and an essay on a choice of topics. This tests all five course objectives.
- (3) An essay (40%), of 1500 words, due Friday 21 December (hand-in is via Turnitin as well as hard-copy to the essay box on VZ level 8). There will be a choice of essay topics. The essay must include direct references to at least 2 secondary texts. This tests all five course objectives.

ASSIGNMENT COVER SHEETS

Assignment cover sheets and extension forms can be found on Blackboard or on level 8 of VZ.

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. You must contact Tatjana Schaefer to apply for an extension, as 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

The minimum course requirements which must be satisfied include completion of three exercises and the essay by Friday 28 December, the sitting of the test on Thursday 13 December, and attendance at 70% of classes (i.e. at least 11 out of 15 two-hour lectures and at least 4 out of 5 tutorials). Failure to satisfy the course requirements will leave you with a fail grade.

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>

TURNITIN

Work provided for assessment in this course may be checked for academic integrity by the electronic search engine <http://www.turnitin.com>. Turnitin is an online plagiarism prevention tool which compares submitted work with a very large database of existing material. Turnitin will retain a copy of submitted material on behalf of the University for detection of future plagiarism, but access to the full text of submissions is not made available to any other party.

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 (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/avcacademic.

COURSE PROGRAMME

Please note: This programme may change slightly once the course is underway, as we might go through some scenes faster and some more slowly than planned. However, the dates for the paraphrase exercises, the class test and the essay deadline are fixed. Readings from the Coursebook are highlighted in **grey**. These readings should be done in preparation for the lecture.

Week 1	19 Nov	Introduction, housekeeping, Act 1 Scene 1 (1.1): the Witches
	21 Nov	Shakespeare's language; 1.2 : Duncan, <i>Macbeth's</i> Scotland; 1.3 : meeting Macbeth; 1.4 : Duncan and Malcolm
	22 Nov	Film clips; Paraphrase exercise 1
Week 2*	26 Nov	1.5-1.7 : Macbeth and Lady Macbeth, French ; 2.1-2.2 : the murder, staging
	28 Nov	2.3-2.4 : aftermath of the murder; 3.1-3.3 : dealing with Banquo
	29 Nov	Film clips; Paraphrase exercise 2
Week 3	3 Dec	3.4 and 3.6 : Macbeth's reign; Holinshed pp. 60-65 4.1 : prophecies and visions
	5 Dec	4.2 : Lady Macduff; 4.3 : Macduff and Malcolm; Holinshed pp. 66-68 ; history, kingship
	6 Dec	Film clips; Paraphrase exercise 3
Week 4	10 Dec	Performances
	12 Dec	Act 5 : battles and endings; Bloom (handout)
	13 Dec	CLASS TEST
Week 5	17 Dec	Critical readings: Leggatt, Eagleton ; essay writing
	19 Dec	Critical readings: Brooks, Bradley ; general discussion
	20 Dec	Film clips: adaptations, parodies, etc.
	21 Dec	ESSAY DUE

*For week 2 tutorials: read **p 101 (Richard III)** and **pp 107-110 (Brutus)** in Coursebook in preparation.