

ENGL 116 Reading Shakespeare: An Introduction

Trimester 3 2013

18 November – 23 February 2014

20 Points



“Macbeth” New Zealand Opera (photo Alexia Sinclair, 2010)

Orson Welles “Macbeth” (film, 1948)

Henry Fuseli “The Weird Sisters” (painting, 1783)

TRIMESTER DATES

Teaching dates: 18 November to 20 December 2013

Last piece of assessment due: 20 December 2013

WITHDRAWAL DATES

Refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/home/admisenrol/payments/withdrawalsrefunds

If you cannot complete an assignment or sit a test or examination (aegrotats), refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/exams-and-assessments/aegrotat

CLASS TIMES AND LOCATIONS

Lectures Please note different room on Thursdays!

Monday, Wednesday 1.10–3.00pm MYLT220

Thursday 1.10–3.00pm HULT220

Tutorials

Tutorials begin in WEEK 1. Please register for tutorials via the ENGL 116 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 board in the Level 3 corridor of the Hugh Mackenzie Building.

NAMES AND CONTACT DETAILS

Tatjana Schaefer	Tatjana.Schaefer@vuw.ac.nz	463 6802	vZ917	Office Hours: TBA
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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. 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.

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, parallel scenes from other plays, critical discussions, adaptations, and audio-visual versions of the play in performance.

COURSE CONTENT

The sole focus of this course is *Macbeth*. We will analyse each scene closely, examine Shakespeare’s language and his techniques of plot and character creation, and consider the text in performance on stage and screen. We will also discuss a range of critical material from the 19th Century to the present.

COURSE LEARNING OBJECTIVES (CLOS)

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. Students who pass this course should be able to:

1. have an in-depth knowledge and understanding of *Macbeth*;

2. 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;
3. be able to respond critically to the text and its concerns;
4. understand the structure, techniques, and conventions of the Elizabethan stage;
5. have some knowledge of relevant aspects of English Renaissance history and culture.

TEACHING FORMAT

The two-hour lectures will incorporate some amount of small-group discussion. 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 of the material and to prepare students for the weekly assessments. There is a worksheet to be completed for each tutorial. Worksheets will be posted on Blackboard. 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.

MANDATORY COURSE REQUIREMENTS

In addition to achieving an overall pass mark of 50%, students must:

- Submit the essay on or by the specified dates and sit the paraphrase exercises and the test (subject to such provisions as are stated for late submission of work)
- Attend 70% of classes (i.e. at least 11 out of 15 two-hour lectures and at least 4 out of 5 tutorials). You must complete the worksheet as part of your attendance.

WORKLOAD

The expected workload for a 20 point course is 200 hours over 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.

ASSESSMENT

The course is internally assessed.

Assessment items and workload per item		%	CLO(s)	Due date
1	Three in-class exercises (10% each) involving the paraphrase and explanation of a short passage from the play. 30 minutes each.	30%	1, 2	21 Nov 28 Nov 5 Dec
2	A 2-hour in-class test in two parts: a critical analysis of a scene (or excerpt from a scene) and an essay on a choice of topics.	30%	1,2,3,4,5	12 Dec
3	An essay, of 1500 words. There will be a choice of essay topics. The essay must include direct references to at least 2 secondary texts.	40%	1,2,3,4,5	20 Dec

SUBMISSION AND RETURN OF WORK

Work provided for assessment in this course will be checked for academic integrity by Turnitin. Follow the instructions provided in the “Assignments and Turnitin” section of Blackboard. You must also submit a hard-copy of the assignment.

Hard-copy assignments are submitted in the drop slot outside the administration office: von Zedlitz level 8. Attach an assignment cover sheet or extension form, found on Blackboard or outside the administration office. Remember to fill in your tutor’s name.

Your marked tests and paraphrase exercises will be handed back by your tutor in tutorials or during their office hours. Marked essays can be picked up from the Programme Administrator after the Christmas break (a Blackboard announcement will specify when the essays are ready for collection). Assignments will be held in the Administration office until the end of the following trimester. You need to show your student identification to collect marked assignment from the Administration office.

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. Since the University will be closed over the Christmas break you must arrange for electronic e-mail submission of your late essay with Tatjana Schaefer.

In exceptional and unforeseen circumstances an extension may be granted. 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. Only the course organiser (Tatjana Schaefer) can grant extensions.

SET TEXTS

- *Macbeth*, ed. Nicholas Brooke (Oxford World's Classics). You may use other editions, but it is advised that you use a good modern annotated edition. Scene and line numbers will vary between editions; all references in lectures and assignments will always be to the Oxford World’s Classics edition.
- Student Notes: Reading Shakespeare.

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.

CLASS REPRESENTATIVE

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.

You may like to write the Class Rep's name and details in this box:

Class Rep name and email address for this course:

STUDENT FEEDBACK

Student feedback on University courses may be found at

www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/feedback/feedback_display.php.

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OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

The information above is specific to this course. There is other important information that students must familiarise themselves with, including:

- Academic Integrity and Plagiarism: www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/plagiarism
- Aegrotats: www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/exams-and-assessments/aegrotat
- Academic Progress: www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/academic-progress (including restrictions and non-engagement)
- Dates and deadlines: www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/dates
- FHSS Student and Academic Services Office: www.victoria.ac.nz/fhss/student-admin
- Grades: www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/exams-and-assessments/grades
- Resolving academic issues:
www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/avcacademic/publications2#grievances
- Special passes: www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/avcacademic/publications2#specialpass
- Statutes and policies including the Student Conduct Statute:
www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/policy
- Student support: www.victoria.ac.nz/home/viclife/student-service
- Students with disabilities: www.victoria.ac.nz/st_services/disability
- Student Charter: www.victoria.ac.nz/home/viclife/student-charter
- Student Contract: www.victoria.ac.nz/home/admisenrol/enrol/studentcontract
- Turnitin: www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin
- University structure: www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about
- VUWSA: www.vuwsa.org.nz
- School website: www.victoria.ac.nz/seftms

COURSE PROGRAMME

Timing: 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.

Reading: You should always read through the scenes for each lecture before the lecture. Readings from the Student Notes book are in **CAPITALS**. You **must** make time for these readings ahead of the lectures and come prepared to discuss them. Reading this material in preparation for lectures (and tutorials) will take up the best part of your workload outside of teaching hours for this course, so do plan your time accordingly!

Week 1	18 Nov	Introduction, housekeeping, Act 1 Scene 1 (1.1): the Witches
	20 Nov	Shakespeare's language; 1.2: Duncan, <i>Macbeth's</i> Scotland; 1.3: meeting Macbeth;
	21 Nov	<u>PARAPHRASE EXERCISE 1</u> ; 1.4: Duncan and Malcolm
Week 2	25 Nov	1.5-1.7: Macbeth and Lady Macbeth, FRENCH article (discussion)
	27 Nov	2.1: Macbeth and Banquo 2.2: the murder, staging; 2.3-2.4: after the murder
	28 Nov	<u>PARAPHRASE EXERCISE 2</u> ; 3.1-3.3: dealing with Banquo
Week 3	2 Dec	3.4: the banquet scene; (3.5); 3.6: Macbeth's reign; HOLINSHED 60-65 (discussion)
	4 Dec	4.1: prophecies / visions; 4.2: Lady Macduff and her son
	5 Dec	<u>PARAPHRASE EXERCISE 3</u> ; 4.3: the England scene; HOLINSHED 66-68 : history, kingship
Week 4	9 Dec	5.1: Lady Macbeth; 5.2-5.5: before the battle
	11 Dec	Guest lecture: Sarah Delahunty; 5.6-5.8: the final battle; endings
	12 Dec	<u>CLASS TEST</u>
Week 5	16 Dec	Macbeth as Tragedy; BROOKS article (discussion); essay writing
	18 Dec	More critical readings: LEGGATT article , EAGLETON article (discussion)
	19 Dec	<i>Macbeth</i> film adaptations, parodies, etc.
	20 Dec	<u>ESSAY DUE</u>