



School of English, Journalism  
& European Languages

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## Unit Outline

HEA222/322  
Shakespeare's Political Plays  
Semester 1, 2008  
[www.utas.edu.au/english](http://www.utas.edu.au/english)

<b>Convenor:</b>	Dr Rose Gaby Room: Hum 547 Phone: 6226 2349 Email: R.Gaby@utas.edu.au
<b>Consultation Hours:</b>	Monday 12-12.50 Thursday 11-11.50
<b>Unit Description:</b>	Provides a study of select Shakespearean histories and tragedies which focus on the personalities and actions of renowned rulers at moments of great political change. The plays will be examined within the context of recent critical debates about the relationship between Shakespeare's stage and the Elizabethan and Jacobean world. Also considered are questions of genre, Renaissance historiography, performance history, and some of the ways in which Shakespeare's political dramas have been reworked to reflect new preoccupations and concerns.
<b>Unit Aims and Objectives:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• to present a range of strategies for reading Shakespearean texts &amp; break down barriers to the language</li><li>• to familiarize students with the field of Shakespeare Studies by exposure to a wide range of critical approaches (including formalist, historicist, feminist, genre &amp; performance-based criticism)</li><li>• to investigate some of the ways in which history was read and represented in Early Modern England</li><li>• to investigate the ways in which Shakespeare's plays about power intersected with the culture that produced them</li><li>• to consider the functions of Shakespearean histories and tragedies through time &amp; the cultural</li></ul>

	implications of contemporary appropriations on stage & in film
<b>Learning Outcomes:</b>	<p>At the completion of this unit students should be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. read and understand Shakespeare's language, making use of the critical apparatus supplied in recent editions</li> <li>2. produce coherent, informed written analysis of the set texts</li> <li>3. demonstrate an understanding of interpretative issues specifically associated with dramatic texts</li> <li>4. demonstrate some familiarity with the range of theoretical perspectives that have been brought to bear on Shakespeare's histories and tragedies</li> <li>5. present informed discussion of the ways the set texts relate to each other and the culture that produced them</li> </ol>
<b>Required Texts:</b>	<p>Shakespeare, <i>King Richard II</i> (Cambridge)</p> <p>Shakespeare, <i>Henry IV Part 1</i> (Oxford)</p> <p>Shakespeare, <i>King Lear</i> (Oxford)</p> <p>Shakespeare, <i>Antony And Cleopatra</i> (Cambridge)</p>
<b>When Taught:</b>	<p><b>Lecture</b> Wed 9.00am-9.50am, SB.Physics314.LT2</p> <p><b>Tutorials</b> Wed 10.00am-11.50am, SB.Hum548 Wed 1.10pm-3.00pm, SB.Hum548 Thurs 9.00am-10.50am, SB.Hum548</p> <p><b>Film</b> Wed 3.10pm-6.00pm, SB.LifeSci256m.LT2 (weeks tbc)</p>
<b>Assessment:</b>	<p>1,000-word essay, (20%) due 4pm Monday March 31</p> <p>2,000-word essay (40%), due 4pm Monday May 5</p> <p>2-hr exam (40%)</p>

## LECTURE/SEMINAR SCHEDULE

Date	Lecture	Tutorials
Week 1 (27/2)	Introduction: Course materials; Studying Shakespeare	No tutorials
Week 2 (5/3)	The Elizabethan History play; reading and performing the past	<i>Richard II</i>
Week 3 (12/3)	<i>Richard II</i>	<i>Richard II</i> Essay 1 advice
Week 4 (19/3)	<i>Richard II</i>	<i>Richard II</i> (19/3 & 27/3)
	<b>Easter Break – 20-26 March</b> <b>Essay 1 due Monday March 31</b>	
Week 5 (2/4)	<i>Henry IV, Part One</i>	<i>Henry IV, Part One</i>
Week 6 (9/4)	<i>Henry IV, Part One</i>	<i>Henry IV, Part One</i>
Week 7 (16/4)	<i>Henry IV, Part One</i>	Essay Writing
Week 8 (23/4)	Notions of tragedy / Shakespearean tragedy	<i>King Lear</i>
Week 9 (30/4)	<i>King Lear</i>	<i>King Lear</i>
	<b>Essay 2 due Monday May 5</b>	
Week 10 (7/5)	<i>King Lear</i>	<i>King Lear</i>
Week 11 (14/5)	<i>Anthony and Cleopatra</i>	<i>Anthony and Cleopatra</i>
Week 12 (21/5)	<i>Anthony and Cleopatra</i>	<i>Anthony and Cleopatra</i>
Week 13 (28/5)	Review & exam advice	No tutorials – drop in sessions
	<b>Study Period: 2-6 June</b> <b>Examination Period: 7-24 June</b>	

### Attendance requirements

Students should attend all tutorials. Failure to attend at least two-thirds of tutorials may result in being deemed ineligible to sit the examination or being required to submit additional work.

## ASSESSMENT

### ESSAY 1 (1000 WORDS)

**This assessment is a close-reading exercise due 4pm Monday March 31**

The assessment is worth 20% of your final mark.

Assessment criteria:

- Evidence of careful close reading of the text
- Ability to construct a persuasive argument in response to the question
- Ability to structure the essay in a clear and logical way within the prescribed word limit
- Attention to expression, spelling, proof-reading and MLA style

It is not necessary to undertake extensive research for this exercise, although some background reading about the play may be useful for you. You should **NOT** use internet study guides like SparkNotes or CliffsNotes to prepare for this assignment.

This assignment will assess learning outcomes 1 and 2.

Topic to be advised

**Note: You will not be able to discuss the play you choose for the exercise in your essay, however you may use it again in the exam.**

### ESSAY 2 (2000 WORDS)

**This assessment is a research essay due 4pm on Monday May 5.**

The assessment is worth 40% of your final mark.

Assessment criteria:

- Effectiveness of introduction
- Relevance and coherence of argument
- Effectiveness of conclusion
- Scope of textual referencing
- Use of critics
- Attention to expression, spelling, proof-reading and MLA style.

This assignment will assess learning outcomes 1,2,3 and 4.

Topic to be advised

### EXAMINATION

The examination will be scheduled in the official examination period. The examination timetable is published on the UTAS website. The examination is worth 40% of your final mark.

The exam will assess learning outcomes 1,2,3 and 4.

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The final date that any work will be accepted will be published on the school notice boards.</li></ul> |
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## Reading Suggestions

### The following have been placed on reserve in the Morris Miller library:

- Alexander, Catherine M. S. *Shakespeare and Politics*. Cambridge: Cambridge UP, 2004.
- Alexander, Catherine M.S., and Stanley Wells, eds. *Shakespeare and Sexuality*. Cambridge: Cambridge UP, 2001.
- Berry, Philippa. *Shakespeare's Feminine Endings: Disfiguring Death in the Tragedies*. New York: Routledge, 1999.
- Colman, Adrian. *Shakespeare's Henry IV, Part One*. Horizon Studies in Literature. Sydney: Sydney UP, 1990.
- Dollimore, Jonathan, and Alan Sinfield, eds. *Political Shakespeare: New Essays in Cultural Materialism*. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. Manchester: Manchester UP, 1994.
- Drakakis, John, and Terence Hawkes, eds. *Alternative Shakespeares*. 2 vols. New York: Routledge, 1988-1996.
- Escolme, Bridget. *Antony and Cleopatra*. Shakespeare Handbooks Series. New York : Palgrave Macmillan, 2006.
- Hoenselaars, Ton, ed. *Shakespeare's History Plays: Performance, Translation, and Adaptation in Britain and Abroad*. Cambridge: Cambridge UP, 2004.
- Hodgdon, Barbara. *The End Crowns All: Closure and Contradiction in Shakespeare's History*. Princeton: Princeton UP, 1991.
- Howard, Jean E., and Phyllis Rackin. *Engendering a Nation: A Feminist Account of Shakespeare's English Histories*. London and New York: Routledge, 1997.
- Hattaway, Michael. *The Cambridge Companion to Shakespeare's History Plays*. Cambridge: Cambridge UP, 2002.
- Hopkins, Lisa. *Shakespeare on the Edge: Border-Crossing in the Tragedies and the Henriad*. Aldershot, England: Ashgate, 2005.
- Hopkins, Lisa. *Beginning Shakespeare*. Manchester: Manchester UP, 2005.
- Leggatt, Alexander. *Shakespeare's Political Drama: The History Plays and the Roman Plays*. Routledge, London, 1988.
- King Lear*. Harvester new critical introductions to Shakespeare. New York : Harvester Wheatsheaf, 1988.
- King Lear* (Second Edition). Shakespeare in Performance series. Manchester: Manchester UP, 2004.
- Madelaine, Richard. *Antony and Cleopatra*. Shakespeare in Performance series. Manchester: Manchester UP, 1998.
- McAlindon, Tom. *Shakespeare's Tudor History: A Study of Henry IV, Parts 1 and 2*. Aldershot, England: Ashgate, 2001.
- McDonald, Russ. *The Bedford Companion to Shakespeare: An Introduction with Documents*. Boston: St Martin's Press, 1996.
- McMillin, Scott. *Shakespeare in Performance: Henry IV, Part One*. Manchester: Manchester UP, 1991.
- Norwich, John Julius. *Shakespeare's Kings*. Harmondsworth: Penguin, 1999.
- Page, Malcolm. *Richard II: Text and Performance*. Basingstoke: Macmillan, 1987.
- Rackin, Phyllis. *Stages of History: Shakespeare's English Chronicles*. Routledge, London, 1990.
- Ruiter, David. *Shakespeare's Festive History*. Aldershot, England: Ashgate, 2003.
- Shrewing, Margaret. *Richard II*. Shakespeare in Performance series. Manchester: Manchester UP, 1998.
- Watt, R.J.C., ed. *Shakespeare's History Plays*. London: Longman, 2002.
- Wharton, T.F. *Henry the Fourth Parts 1 and 2: Text and Performance*. London: Macmillan, 1983.
- Wilders, John. *The Lost Garden: A View of Shakespeare's English and Roman History Plays*. Basingstoke: Macmillan, 1978.

### The following have been placed on 3-day loan:

- Boose Lynda E., and Richard Burt, eds. *Shakespeare, The Movie 1&2*. London: Routledge, 1997 & 2003.
- Bate, Jonathan and Russell Jackson, eds. *Shakespeare: An Illustrated Stage History*. Oxford: Oxford UP, 1996.
- Jackson, Russell and Robert Smallwood, eds. *Players of Shakespeare 2, 3 & 4*, Cambridge: Cambridge UP, —1998.
- Pilkington, Ace, G. *Screening Shakespeare From Richard II to Henry V*. London and Toronto: Associated University Presses, 1991.
- Royster, Francesca. *Becoming Cleopatra*. Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan, 2003.

### Databases, Journals & Collections

The Gale *Shakespeare Collection*, available to UTAS students through the library's website, provides links to many full-text articles. Journal articles from *Shakespeare Quarterly*, *SEL*, *Shakespeare Bulletin* and many other relevant journals are available online through JSTORE and Project Muse. *Shakespeare Quarterly*, *SEL*, and *Shakespeare Survey* are also held in hard-copy form in the library.

Two very useful collections of Shakespeare criticism are held in the Reference section of the Morris Miller library: Dutton, Richard and Jean E. Howard. *A Companion to Shakespeare's Works*. Malden, MA: Blackwell Pub., 2003. *Shakespeare Criticism*. Detroit, Mich: Gale Research Company, 1984-

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

### Submission of Assignments

Students are required to submit a signed cover sheet with every assignment. This includes a declaration that all material submitted is their own work except where there is clear acknowledgement or reference to the work of others and that they have read the University statement on Academic Misconduct (Plagiarism) on the University website at [www.utas.edu.au/plagiarism](http://www.utas.edu.au/plagiarism) or in the Student Information Handbook.

Assignment cover sheets are available from the School office or the School website. **Assignments submitted without a signed cover sheet will not be marked.** Students who submit assignments without a signed cover sheet will be contacted once via their UTAS email address; in such instances the cover sheet must be completed within two weeks of the due date.

All assignments must be submitted in hard-copy (not by email) and placed in the essay box at the School office on or before 5pm on the due date. Students are required to keep copies of all submitted assignments. Assignments submitted on time will be returned within three weeks of the due date; once on time assignments have been returned no further late assignments will be accepted. All marked assignments will be returned in tutorials unless otherwise advised.

### Late Assignments

Late submissions will be penalized as follows: 5% of the available marks for the first day, and then 2% per working day thereafter. Late work will be accepted without penalty if accompanied by a medical certificate for the relevant period or a letter from a counsellor in the case of a serious non-medical reason.

### Difficulties with your Studies

If you are experiencing difficulties with your studies or assignments, have personal or life planning issues, disability or illness which may affect your course of study, you should raise these with your lecturer and/or one of the following Student Services staff as soon as possible:

- Learning Skills Adviser
- Disability Adviser
- Careers Adviser
- Student Counsellor

### University Statement on Plagiarism and Academic Integrity

**"Plagiarism** is a form of cheating. It is taking and using someone else's thoughts, writings or inventions and representing them as your own; for example, using an author's words without putting them in quotation marks and citing the source, using an author's ideas without proper acknowledgment and citation, copying another student's work.

If you have any doubts about how to refer to the work of others in your assignments, please consult your lecturer or tutor for relevant referencing guidelines, and the academic integrity resources on the web at <http://www.utas.edu.au/tl/supporting/academicintegrity/index.html>.

The intentional copying of someone else's work as one's own is a serious offence punishable by penalties that may range from a fine or deduction/cancellation of marks and, in the most serious of cases, to exclusion from a unit, a course or the University. Details of penalties that can be imposed are available in the Ordinance of Student Discipline – Part 3 Academic Misconduct, see <http://www.utas.edu.au/universitycouncil/legislation/>.

**The University and any persons authorised by the University may submit your assessable works to a plagiarism checking service, to obtain a report on possible instances of plagiarism. Assessable works may also be included in a reference database. It is a condition of this arrangement that the original author's permission is required before a work within the database can be viewed.**

### Assignment Presentation

The English discipline uses MLA Style, which is characterized by in-text referencing and a list of works cited. See the *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers*, 6th ed. Ed. Joseph Gibaldi (New York: The Modern Language Association of America, 2003). For a brief introduction, refer to [http://www.utas.edu.au/english/english1/mla\\_citation\\_syst.doc](http://www.utas.edu.au/english/english1/mla_citation_syst.doc), MLA Citations System: A Brief Guide.

### Marking Scale

The following distribution of marks and grades is applied in assessing your work:

- High Distinction (HD)—80-100%
- Distinction (DN)—70-79%
- Credit (CR)—60-69%
- Pass (PP)—50-59%
- Fail (NN)—0-49%

All marks are subject to moderation.

### Assessment Criteria

The following criteria apply to assessment of the essay:

- Effectiveness of introduction
- Relevance and coherence of argument
- Effectiveness of conclusion
- Scope of textual referencing
- Use of critics
- Attention to expression, spelling, proof-reading and stylesheet.

### IT Support

Learning online—for online learning and Vista support – <http://www.utas.edu.au/coursesonline/>  
Information Technology Services—for general IT Support (includes link to UTAS download website)  
<http://www.utas.edu.au/servicedesk/student/index.html>

Library Services—for information literacy support – <http://www.utas.edu.au/library/>  
Help Desk (email [HelpDesk@utas.edu.au](mailto:HelpDesk@utas.edu.au) or 6226 1818, within University 1818)