

**Nanyang Technological University**

**Division of English**

**HL 3030 Major Author Study: Shakespeare**

**Course Blog: <https://hl3030shakespeare.wordpress.com>**

**Semester 2 (Academic Year 2016-2017)**

**Wednesdays, HSS Seminar Room 4; 9:30am – 12:30pm**

**Instructor: Jane Wong**

**Office: HSS 03-58; Office hours TBA**

**Email: yc.wong@ntu.edu.sg**

### **Course Description**

This course focuses on Shakespeare Studies. Discussions of Shakespeare's works will include historical, social, and cultural contexts of the period when the works were produced. Students will also be introduced to major theoretical frameworks that have influenced the development of Shakespeare Studies over the last few decades.

### **Course Objective**

This course introduces students to Shakespeare Studies by exploring developments in literature, language, and culture in the early modern period. In addition to learning about stage and book printing practices in 16<sup>th</sup> century England, students will also learn about some of the challenges that Shakespeare and his contemporaries faced in production of literary works. We will consider a range of Shakespearean works, from his early sonnets to his late tragedies. We will also observe selected filmic aspects of the plays, and consider how and why modern adaptations of the Shakespeare's plays appeal to audiences in various parts of the world. Students enrolled in this course are expected to have a background in Renaissance literature, and should be prepared to conduct extensive research for the projects and essays assigned in the course.

### **Course Assessment**

Presentations (including participation): 25%

Coursework Essay: 25% (about 2000 words)

Final Exam: 50%

### **Required Texts:**

Shakespeare, William. *The Complete Pelican Shakespeare* (2002). ISBN: 978-0141000589

You may use any other version of Shakespeare's works but pls. be sure to use a copy that has line numbers.

\*Also note that line numbers are generally similar in different versions but there will be minor variations.

### **Important Notes:**

#### **You must agree to abide by these guidelines to remain registered in this course**

- All students who need to consult should send an email **at least 3 working days ahead of time**.
- I will not engage with lengthy email discussion sessions to avoid miscommunication, instead you should make an appointment to see me in my office.
- Please allow at least a day or two for responses to emails (with the exception of weekends and public holidays). **If and when you receive a response from me, pls. be polite and take a moment to acknowledge my response.**

- Office consultation: Please come prepared with questions so that we can address your concerns effectively and efficiently. Out of consideration for your classmates who may also need consultation time, I will limit consultations to about 20 mins for each student.
- I will not attend to group consultations and will see students individually.
- Be sure to arrive on time to class, and if you have to leave early, pls. let me know ahead of time. As usual, pls. be respectful to your classmates and be sure to turn off all electronic devices during lectures and tutorials.
- Use of course resources:
  - 1) **All materials** distributed in class and on the course blog are meant to be used for class lectures and discussions only. They are not to be re-distributed outside of class for any other purposes. If you wish to use the materials for your assignments, you must cite them accordingly.
  - 2) You are not allowed to record lectures in any form without permission from the instructors.
- If you are unable to attend class, it is your responsibility to check our course blog for updates or announcements that you may have missed.
- Late assignments: written assignments that are submitted late will receive a penalty of half a grade each day (including weekends and holidays); if I do not receive an assignment a week after it is due, you will receive a 0 for the essay.
- Absence in class: if you are absent on the day when an in-class writing assignment is due, you will not be able to make-up for this. Those who are absent for presentations will not have the opportunity to make-up their work in another group's presentation.
- Any attempt at plagiarism will be subjected to university disciplinary action.

## Tentative Reading Schedule

Date	Readings	Deadlines
Week 1	Introduction	
Week 2	<i>The Rape of Lucrece</i> (and critical essay)	
Week 3	<i>Shakespeare and the Stage</i> (selected readings on blog)	
Week 4	<i>Titus Andronicus</i>	
Week 5	<i>Merry Wives of Windsor</i> (and critical essay)	
Week 6	<i>Julius Caesar</i>	
Week 7	<i>Antony and Cleopatra</i> (and critical essay)	
Week 8	Recess	
Week 9	<i>Troilus and Cressida</i> (and critical essay)	
Week 10	<i>Richard II</i>	
Week 11	<i>Henry V</i> (and critical essay)	Essays Due
Week 12	<i>1 Henry VI</i> (Film)	
Week 13	<i>2 Henry VI</i> (and critical essay)	
Week 14	<i>Exam Review</i>	