

**University of Roehampton International Summer School**

**Department of Drama, Theatre and Performance**

**Module Title: Shakespeare and the London Stage**

**Module Code: DRA020N200H or DRA020X200H**

**Module Tutor: TBC**

**Module Rationale**

Students will read plays by Shakespeare and other authors alongside primary historical documents. They will also attend performances of relevant plays, view video versions of plays and tour relevant spaces in London. The focus will be divided between 21<sup>st</sup> century manifestations of Shakespeare, the city of London as related to Shakespeare, and the Elizabethan era.

Students who successfully complete this course will have:

- A working understanding of the way in which theatrical spaces and historical factors shape theatre production.
- An understanding of some of the modes through which scripts and performances are transferred and translated into contemporary moments.

**Draft Syllabus**

**Week 1**

**Day 1:** Introduction and discussion of primary documents (e.g. diaries by Dudley Carleton, letters by Queen Elizabeth or King James, records from the Office of the Revels).

**Day 2:** Discussion of performance viewed the prior night.

**Day 3:** Site visit (e.g. Museum of London, Globe Theatre, National Gallery) and discussion.

**Week 2**

**Day 1:** Site visit (e.g. Museum of London, Globe Theatre, National Gallery) and discussion.

**Day 2-3:** Reading and discussion of one contemporary Shakespeare adaptation (with attention to diversity), one Shakespeare play and one Elizabethan drama).

**Week 3**

**Day 1-2:** Continue reading and discussion

**Day 3:** Conclusion and student presentations

**Teaching and Learning Methods**

This module will consist primarily of discussion, frequently onsite with a minimal amount of lecturing. Students will demonstrate their knowledge through discussion, writing and presentations.

**Assessment**

For DRA020N200H

Essay (2000 words) - 50%

Presentation - 50%

For DRA020X200H

Essay (3000 words) - 50%

Presentation - 50%

## Reading and Resource List

*Essential Reading* – This will vary from module to module, but will include theoretical texts, play script and, archival footage. There are representative samples of this below in “further reading.”

### *Further (Recommended) Reading*

Bate, Jonathan, and Dora Thornton (eds), *Shakespeare: Staging the World* (London: British Museum, 2012).

Briggs, Julia, *This Stage-Play World: English Literature and its Background, 1580-1625* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1983).

Kastan, David Scott, ed., *A Companion to Shakespeare* (Oxford: Blackwell, 1999)

Kermode, Frank, *The Age of Shakespeare* (London: Weidenfeld and Nicolson, 2004).

### **On Shakespeare’s life:**

Weis, René, *Shakespeare Revealed: A Biography* (London : John Murray, 2007)

On Shakespeare in relation to his contemporaries:

Hoenselaars, Ton, ed., *The Cambridge Companion to Shakespeare and Contemporary Dramatists* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2010)

Wiggins, Martin, *Shakespeare and the Drama of his Time* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2000)

### **On early modern performance practices:**

Carson, Christie, and Farah Karim-Cooper, eds, *Shakespeare’s Globe: A Theatrical Experiment* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2008)

Gurr, Andrew, *The Shakespearean Stage, 1574-1642*, 4th edn (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2009)

### **On Shakespeare’s London:**

Crawforth, Hannah, Sarah Dustagheer, and Jennifer Young, *Shakespeare in London* (London: Bloomsbury Arden Shakespeare, 2015)