

Module code: MOD005871	Version: 4 Date Amended: 30/Oct/2023
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1. Module Title
Spectacle and Representation in Renaissance Drama

2a. Module Leader
Bethan Davies

2b. School
School of Humanities and Social Sciences

2c. Faculty
Faculty of Arts, Humanities, Education and Social Sciences

3a. Level
6

3b. Module Type
Standard (fine graded)

4a. Credits
15

4b. Study Hours
150

5. Restrictions			
Type	Module Code	Module Name	Condition
Pre-requisites:	None		
Co-requisites:	None		
Exclusions:	None		
Courses to which this module is restricted:			

LEARNING, TEACHING AND ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

6a. Module Description

You will consider a range of plays from the period 1580 to 1642 in the light of issues of stage spectacle and representation in a variety of forms, including identity, sexuality, violence, and death. You will experience one of the greatest periods of dramatic writing that English literature has known, which has subsequently continued on the English stage under the UK's great acting companies, including the Royal Shakespeare Company and National Theatre. Primary texts will be taken from Shakespeare and his chief contemporaries, including a changing range of authors chosen from Thomas Kyd, George Chapman, Ben Jonson, Christopher Marlowe, John Marston, Thomas Middleton, Francis Beaumont, John Fletcher, John Webster, John Ford, Richard Brome, and James Shirley. You should check the reading list each year to determine specific plays. You will become familiar with relevant theory and criticism of Shakespeare and his contemporaries. In seminars you will be attentive to issues of performance, which can include active learning through play-reading and walking through a scene, or in independent learning through attending relevant performances or viewing film adaptations.

6b. Outline Content

- Staging the Renaissance
- Politics
- Identity
- Sex
- Film and Adaptation

6c. Key Texts/Literature

The reading list to support this module is available at: <https://readinglists.aru.ac.uk/>

6d. Specialist Learning Resources

Early English Books Online [online database]

English Short Title Catalogue [online database]

Shakespeare Quarterly [online journal]

English Literature Renaissance [online journal]

Shakespeare Survey [online journal]

Renaissance Quarterly [online journal]

7. Learning Outcomes (threshold standards)		
No.	Type	On successful completion of this module the student will be expected to be able to:
1	Knowledge and Understanding	Demonstrate a systematic understanding of the set texts;
2	Knowledge and Understanding	Interrogate distinctive critical perspectives using established, accurate techniques of analysis appropriate to the study of the chosen plays;
3	Knowledge and Understanding	Demonstrate an appreciation of uncertainty, ambiguity, and the limits of knowledge in deploying appropriate Renaissance contexts for the appreciation of the set texts;
4	Intellectual, practical, affective and transferrable skills	Critically evaluate authoritative arguments, assumptions, and concepts demonstrating awareness of relevant debates with appropriate support.

8a. Module Occurrence to which this MDF Refers				
Year	Occurrence	Period	Location	Mode of Delivery
2026/7	ZZF	Template For Face To Face Learning Delivery		Face to Face

8b. Learning Activities for the above Module Occurrence			
Learning Activities	Hours	Learning Outcomes	Details of Duration, frequency and other comments
Lectures	0	None	None
Other teacher managed learning	24	1-4	Seminar: 12 x 2 hours per week
Student managed learning	126	1-4	Reading primary and secondary texts; viewing performances or films
TOTAL:	150		

9. Assessment for the above Module Occurrence					
Assessment No.	Assessment Method	Learning Outcomes	Weighting (%)	Fine Grade or Pass/Fail	Qualifying Mark (%)
010	Practical	1-4	35 (%)	Fine Grade	30 (%)
Collection of 4 x 250-word online discussion contributions on Canvas, totalling 1,000 words					
Assessment No.	Assessment Method	Learning Outcomes	Weighting (%)	Fine Grade or Pass/Fail	Qualifying Mark (%)
011	Coursework	1-4	65 (%)	Fine Grade	30 (%)
2,000 word essay					

In order to pass this module, students are required to achieve an overall mark of 40% (for modules at levels 3, 4, 5 and 6) or 50% (for modules at level 7*).

In addition, students are required to:

- (a) achieve the qualifying mark for each element of fine graded assessment as specified above
- (b) pass any pass/fail elements

[* the pass mark of 50% applies for all module occurrences from the academic year 2024/25 – see Section 3a of this MDF to check the level of the module and Section 8a of this MDF to check the academic year]