

Preliminary Web Course Description

*Please note: This is a preliminary web course description only. The department reserves the right to change without notice any information in this description. The final, binding course outline will be distributed in the first class of the semester.

School of English and Theatre Studies

Course Code: THST 2270	Course Title: Theatre Research II	Date of Offering: Winter 2018
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Course Instructor: Sky Gilbert	Course Format: lecture/discussions as well as preparation of a cafe performance for downtown Guelph
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This course will revolve around studying various scholarly approaches to Shakespeare's work, with a view to organizing a performance event: 'The Shakespeare Cafe' at the end of the semester. The course will be divided into three sections: Shakespeare as neo-Platonist, Shakespeare as Rhetorician and finally -- Who was Shakespeare, and does it matter? In each section we will focus on one of these scholarly approaches to Shakespeare's work. One week of each section will be devoted to gathering documents, another week will be focused on applying those documents to the work, and the third/fourth week will involve choosing and performing scenes that reflect some of the theories we have discovered. The last two final classes will be a public reading of Shakespearean scenes and scholarly material at the 'Shakespeare Cafe.'

Textbooks include: Twelfth Night, Macbeth, and Hamlet
Readings include: Coursepack

evaluation:

- 1) participation (20%)
- 2) tests (15%) there will be four true/false tests, you will be notified of the time and dates of each
- 3) play report(20%) you will be asked to report on each play that we are studying in the context of the theoretical research we have done for that play in 900 words
- 4) final paper (25%) you will expand one of your play reports to 1800 words to present a thesis on one of the plays studied
- 5) final performance (15%) you will be marked on the commitment and effort as well as the ultimate outcome of your performance

Course Outcomes:

Successful students will have learned to:

- gain a basic knowledge of Shakespeare's plays in the context of the New Historicism
- understand close reading of theatrical texts
- become familiar with the application of theory to text
- apply effective communications skills for oral, visual and written communication
- analyze and interpret primary source materials and synthesize research findings to present argument, in oral and written form

- be present and committed in a live theatrical performance
- work co-operatively in groups

