



THST*4290 Research Seminar II

01

Winter 2021

Section(s): C01

School of English and Theatre Studies

Credit Weight: 0.50

Version 1.00 - December 19, 2020

1 Course Details

1.1 Calendar Description

This is an advanced research seminar in selected topics in media, theatre and performance. The course features variable content. Please consult the Theatre Studies website for more information.

Pre-Requisites:

10.00 credits, including THST*4270

Restrictions:

THST*4330, Restricted to students in a Theatre Studies specialization with an average of 70% in the specialization.

1.2 Course Description

Sexuality and Shakespeare

This course looks at the topic of sexuality and its relationship Shakespeare's work. Most of the course is academic in focus, but there are two practical exercises.

The purpose is not to discern what Shakespeare's sexuality was; this would be impossible as (for instance) there was no such category as 'homosexuality' during Shakespeare's time, there were only same sex acts. However, starting with *Venus and Adonis* (a controversial, pornographic poem) we will examine what it's like to 'read our own sexuality into' Shakespeare's work, in the context of Stephen Guy-Bray's concept of 'homoerotic space.' We will move on to *Richard II* – often interpreted as a gay character. Finally we will examine the notion of the gendering of style through works by Lyly, Wilde, Barthes, Savran, and Cixous. There are two opportunities for praxis. There will be a chance for students to learn to 'write like Shakespeare' by writing and performing (in a youtube video) a monologue in the style of Shakespeare's 'to be or not to be.' Also, as part of each student's seminar presentation they must perform a relevant Shakespearean monologue on youtube video.

FORMAT: This course will be offered in virtual synchronous fashion from 11:30-2:20 on Tuesdays in winter. In each of the first 7 classes there will be a brief 20 minute lecture, followed by an hour long seminar discussion with the whole class. Then there will be a break

of at least 10 minutes. This break will be followed by another 20 minute lecture and another hour long seminar discussion with the whole class. The last 5 classes will be devoted to students preparing and delivering 2 seminars per class on assigned topics.

TEXTS: Students will be asked to purchase two hard copy Shakespeare texts, both in Folger editions: *Richard II* and *Shakespeare's Sonnets and Poems*.

The rest of the reading material will be provided online through course link or Ares Course Reserve.

1.3 Timetable

The official course outline will contain a weekly schedule and will be available on course link on the first day of classes.

Classes take place on Tuesdays from 11:30-2:20 on zoom, you enter through courselink.

Here is a rough outline of the class schedule:

Jan 12

Introductory Class / Justin Borrows' "The First Folio of Shakespere"
/ Edward de Vere lecture

Jan 19

Mon Sept 18 Venus and Adonis / Stephen Guy Bray

Jan 26

Ephuism / Endymion

Feb 2

Richard II / Shakespere: Pretty Richard in Three parts

Feb 9

Gendered style: Cixous, de Beauvoir, Fornes, Savran, Barthes

Feb 16 READING WEEK

Feb 23

Hermogenes and rhetoric

Mar 2

Rhetoric exercises

Mar 9

Seminar

Mar 16
Seminar

Mar 23
Seminar

Mar 30
Seminar

April 6
Seminar

1.4 Final Exam

There is no final exam.

2 Instructional Support

2.1 Instructional Support Team

Instructor:	Sky Gilbert
Email:	sky@uoguelph.ca
Telephone:	+1-519-824-4120 x53237
Office:	MASS 108

3 Learning Resources

3.1 Required Resources

Richard II (Folger) (Textbook)

You are required to buy two textbooks, this is one of them along with Shakespeare's Sonnets and Poems. Please note that we all want to be using the same texts, so do not buy another edition.

Shakespeare's Sonnets and Poems (Folger) (Textbook)

Sources in 'content on courselink or at Ares (Website)

The rest of the texts you will be asked to read will either be provided on courselink in 'content,' or through Ares Course reserve at the library.

4 Learning Outcomes

4.1 Course Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course, you should be able to:

1. COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES - analyze and interpret primary source materials and differentiate them from secondary source materials (especially in the context of the web) - be interculturally competent and gain understanding of issues around sexuality and difference - understand close reading of theatrical texts, understand how to apply theory to a literary or theatrical text - be adept at applying cultural criticism - apply effective communications skills for oral and written communication - synthesize research findings to present argument in oral (seminar) and written (essay) form.
2. THST LEARNING OUTCOMES THST LEARNING OUTCOMES 1.To develop artists who thrive on intellectual curiosity, openness to ideas and take measured risk through creative experiences. 2.To develop informed and creative citizens, empowered to contribute to the world through writing and performance. 3. To apply critical sensibilities through a familiarity and understanding of a range of significant performance and media work past and present. 4.To develop well-rounded performance artists, who possess the research tools and disciplinary skills to model their own productive performance practices. 5. To develop meaningful ways to integrate theory, technology and practice where critical thinking and creativity are equally embraced. 6. To learn techniques for communication and collaboration, build relationships and to listen and respect different thought processes.

5 Teaching and Learning Activities

6 Assessments

6.1 Marking Schemes & Distributions

- Weekly questions 10% (only due up until the student research seminars are presented)
For the first two thirds of the semester you will submit two written questions based on the reading assignments for each week.
- Video answers to weekly questions. 15% (only due up until the student research seminars are presented)
Starting in the second class and going until the 8th class, students must make a 2-4 minute video submitted on youtube, in which they attempt to answer one of the questions they

asked.

- Exercise in Rhetoric and video performance of it 10%

- Questions on research seminars 10%

For the last 5 classes, students will be ready to ask two discussion questions during each seminar, and will submit them after the seminar in written form.

- Seminar 20%

Each student will deliver a 20 minute research seminar presentation, and show a 2-4 minute video in which they perform a monologue from Shakespeare that is relevant to their seminar topic (they must explain the relevance). This will be followed by a 20 minute question and answer period led by the student.

- Final Essay 20%

Due Friday April 10. This 2100 word essay (or 7 pages including works cited) will be on a topic of your own choice that significantly references one or more of the plays or theories we have studied. The essay must follow the MLA Handbook, 7th edition.

- Participation 15%

7 University Statements

7.1 Email Communication

As per university regulations, all students are required to check their e-mail account regularly: e-mail is the official route of communication between the University and its students.

7.2 When You Cannot Meet a Course Requirement

When you find yourself unable to meet an in-course requirement because of illness or compassionate reasons please advise the course instructor (or designated person, such as a teaching assistant) in writing, with your name, id#, and e-mail contact. The grounds for Academic Consideration are detailed in the Undergraduate and Graduate Calendars.

Undergraduate Calendar - Academic Consideration and Appeals

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/c08/c08-ac.shtml>

Graduate Calendar - Grounds for Academic Consideration

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/graduate/current/genreg/index.shtml>

Associate Diploma Calendar - Academic Consideration, Appeals and Petitions

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/diploma/current/index.shtml>

7.3 Drop Date

Students will have until the last day of classes to drop courses without academic penalty. The deadline to drop two-semester courses will be the last day of classes in the second semester. This applies to all students (undergraduate, graduate and diploma) except for Doctor of Veterinary Medicine and Associate Diploma in Veterinary Technology (conventional and alternative delivery) students. The regulations and procedures for course registration are available in their respective Academic Calendars.

Undergraduate Calendar - Dropping Courses

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/c08/c08-drop.shtml>

Graduate Calendar - Registration Changes

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/graduate/current/genreg/genreg-reg-regchg.shtml>

Associate Diploma Calendar - Dropping Courses

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/diploma/current/c08/c08-drop.shtml>

7.4 Copies of Out-of-class Assignments

Keep paper and/or other reliable back-up copies of all out-of-class assignments: you may be asked to resubmit work at any time.

7.5 Accessibility

The University promotes the full participation of students who experience disabilities in their academic programs. To that end, the provision of academic accommodation is a shared responsibility between the University and the student.

When accommodations are needed, the student is required to first register with Student Accessibility Services (SAS). Documentation to substantiate the existence of a disability is required; however, interim accommodations may be possible while that process is underway.

Accommodations are available for both permanent and temporary disabilities. It should be noted that common illnesses such as a cold or the flu do not constitute a disability.

Use of the SAS Exam Centre requires students to book their exams at least 7 days in advance and not later than the 40th Class Day.

For Guelph students, information can be found on the SAS website

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/sas>

For Ridgetown students, information can be found on the Ridgetown SAS website

<https://www.ridgetownc.com/services/accessibilityservices.cfm>

7.6 Academic Integrity

The University of Guelph is committed to upholding the highest standards of academic integrity, and it is the responsibility of all members of the University community-faculty, staff, and students-to be aware of what constitutes academic misconduct and to do as much as possible to prevent academic offences from occurring. University of Guelph students have the responsibility of abiding by the University's policy on academic misconduct regardless of their location of study; faculty, staff, and students have the responsibility of supporting an environment that encourages academic integrity. Students need to remain aware that instructors have access to and the right to use electronic and other means of detection.

Please note: Whether or not a student intended to commit academic misconduct is not relevant for a finding of guilt. Hurried or careless submission of assignments does not excuse students from responsibility for verifying the academic integrity of their work before submitting it. Students who are in any doubt as to whether an action on their part could be construed as an academic offence should consult with a faculty member or faculty advisor.

Undergraduate Calendar - Academic Misconduct

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/c08/c08-amisconduct.shtml>

Graduate Calendar - Academic Misconduct

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/graduate/current/genreg/index.shtml>

7.7 Recording of Materials

Presentations that are made in relation to course work - including lectures - cannot be recorded or copied without the permission of the presenter, whether the instructor, a student, or guest lecturer. Material recorded with permission is restricted to use for that course unless further permission is granted.

7.8 Resources

The Academic Calendars are the source of information about the University of Guelph's procedures, policies, and regulations that apply to undergraduate, graduate, and diploma programs.

Academic Calendars

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/academics/calendars>

7.9 Disclaimer

Please note that the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic may necessitate a revision of the format of course offerings and academic schedules. Any such changes will be announced via CourseLink and/or class email. All University-wide decisions will be posted on the COVID-19 website (<https://news.uoguelph.ca/2019-novel-coronavirus-information/>) and circulated by email.

7.10 Illness

The University will not normally require verification of illness (doctor's notes) for fall 2020 or

winter 2021 semester courses. However, requests for Academic Consideration may still require medical documentation as appropriate.
