

SCHOOL OF ENGLISH, FILM, THEATRE, AND MEDIA STUDIES  
THEATRE PROGRAMME  
2007 COURSE OUTLINE

**THFI 313** (CRN 6690)

# SHAKESPEARE ON FILM

## Course Co-ordinator and Teaching Staff

Course Co-ordinator: David Carnegie (FT77/308, tel: 463-6825). Office hours posted on door.  
Tutor: David Lawrence (david@thebacchanals.net).

## Class times and venue

2/3. Mon 12–12.50 pm, Tues 12–3 pm, Fri 12–2 pm. FT77 room 205.  
Tutorial Fri 2.10–3 or 4.10–5.

## Course Aims

The course will investigate filmed (and televised) versions of the plays of Shakespeare.

This is a Shakespeare course: Shakespeare as a narrative scriptwriter. The principal focus will be on the films as interpretations of Shakespeare's plays. Reading and analysing Shakespearean scripts (plays) is therefore central as a starting point for considering the adaptation of those plays to another medium.

An important secondary focus will be on the special challenge of translating rhetorical dramaturgy designed for the Elizabethan theatre into film or television that is successful in its own terms, and not simply as cultural homage. Literary, historical, theatrical and cinematic critical skills will be needed, in a judicious balance, to compare major films, directors and styles (including BBC 'house style'). The Monday lecture will normally introduce a film topic and/or the play for the week; the Tuesday session will be a full screening of an important version of the play, while on Friday excerpts from a variety of other films of the play will normally be shown and discussed. The Friday tutorial will include student seminar presentations.

## Course Objectives

By the end of the course students should

- be familiar with the main cinematic techniques of interpreting Shakespeare
- be familiar with the developing critical debate on Shakespeare on film
- be able to analyse the impact of film-making styles on dramaturgical interpretation
- be able to undertake informed comparative study of dramaturgical interpretation of Shakespeare on film

## Required Texts

A complete Shakespeare, such as the Norton Shakespeare; or, better, individual *scholarly* editions of the core plays (see Timetable page).

*THFI 313 Shakespeare on Film Course Reader*, available from Student Notes.

*Guidelines for SEFT Students* (9 pages on presentation of written work) is available on-line at

[www.vuw.ac.nz/seft/documents/guideforseftstudents.doc](http://www.vuw.ac.nz/seft/documents/guideforseftstudents.doc)

A *SEFTMS Style Guide* (about 100 pages on assessment, analysing drama, film, poetry, grammar, glossary of critical and theatrical terms, etc.) is available on-line at:

[www.vuw.ac.nz/seft/theatre/about/resources.aspx](http://www.vuw.ac.nz/seft/theatre/about/resources.aspx)

## Video and DVD

All the films on the course are available on video or DVD in Audiovisual Suite of the University Library, and in a few cases in the Theatre Programme video collection in FT77/209. A complete listing of videos and locations of holdings is available in the Robert Lord Library (FT77/208). VUW Library videos may be viewed in the Audiovisual Suite; booking ahead is advised. While you are preparing seminars, or writing essays, I will, on request, transfer library videos to the Dept for a week or so, in order that you can do undisturbed close analysis on our VCRs in the Video Viewing Room, the Seminar Room, or the Film Room. A booking sheet is on the noticeboard outside these rooms; be aware that students from other film courses will also be needing access, and making bookings, so plan ahead and be prepared to use your time efficiently. You may need to purchase a blank video tape from the AV Technician (FT85/105), or the Theatre Technician (FT77/204). For protocols about AV use, refer to the *FAT Book* (free to all students from the Film and Theatre Administrator, FT77/307).

## Communication

Any additional information, or changes to the course will be announced in class and/or posted on the course noticeboard at FT77, Level 3.

## Assessment

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| <b>Mise-en-scene/storyboard exercise</b> due 12 noon Friday 10 August  | 15% |
| <b>Test 1</b> in class Friday 7 September  | 10% |
| <b>Test 2</b> in class Monday 8 October  | 15% |
| <b>Seminar.</b> Dates to be allocated. The seminar will consist of a presentation during a Friday class of 5–10 minutes (including video examples) on a particular film, and then leading discussion for another 10 minutes. Details will be announced in class. | 25% |
| <b>Essay</b> due 5pm Friday 12 October; 3000 words   | 35% |

Notes:

1) Essays must be presented in accordance with the style required in *Guidelines for SEFT Students: Minimum Standards for Presentation of Essays* (see *Required Texts* above).

2) If you wish to ask for an extension (e.g., because of pressure of work), you must do so **before** the due date. Otherwise, unless there are exceptional circumstances (e.g., medical reasons with certificate), work handed in late will lose a grade (e.g., drop from B+ to B, etc.) for each day or part-day late if handed in within a week; work later than this may receive no mark.

3) Note that the tests are part of the mandatory course requirements.

4) Aegrotat procedures are explained in the Assessment Statute in the University *Calendar*.

### **Workload**

The university anticipates that you should be able to devote about 16 hours per week to a 24-point course at 300-level; on this basis you should expect to spend, on average, about 9 hours per week (apart from class time) in reading, preparation, viewing films, thinking and essay writing. Some students may be able to pass (though not necessarily well) with less: others may find they need or want to do more, particularly as viewing takes quite a lot of time. In addition to reading each play, you should **as a minimum** also read (1) the appropriate article(s) in the *Course Reader*, and (2) an introduction to each play in a scholarly edition such as the Arden, New Cambridge, Oxford, or Penguin edition.

### **Relationship Between Assessment and Course Objectives**

The storyboard exercise is designed to develop an imaginative awareness of visual choices required to adapt theatrical spoken drama to film. The tests will ascertain your grasp of theoretical, dramatic and film basics in Shakespeare. The seminar is an opportunity to undertake film analysis in depth, and to use filmed examples to support an argument. The essay will provide an opportunity to apply theoretical, historical and dramaturgical understanding to a selected topic in Shakespeare on Film.

### **Mandatory Course Requirements**

In order to pass this course a high standard of attendance at class (at least 75%) as well as completion of all assignments is required, in addition to achieving at least a C grade overall.

## THFI 313 SHAKESPEARE ON FILM TIMETABLE 2007

| WK | MONDAY<br>12–12.50   | TUESDAY<br>12–3   | FRIDAY<br>12–2   | Tut 2.10–3<br>or 4.10–5 |
|----|--|---|--|-------------------------|
| 1  | 9 JULY<br>Introduction<br>Shakespeare on Film                | 10<br><i>Midsummer Night's<br/>Dream</i> (Reinhart 1935)<br>150 min | 13<br><i>MND</i> (Hall, BBC,<br>Hoffman)                             | 13<br>No tut            |
| 2  | 16<br>Film and TV  | 17<br><i>Henry 5</i> (Olivier 1944)<br>137 min                      | 20<br><i>H5</i> (Branagh, ESC)<br>Discn of mise-en-scene<br>exercise | 20<br><i>H5</i>         |
| 3  | 23<br>Language and image                                     | 24<br><i>Hamlet</i> (Kozintsev 1964)<br>150 min                     | 27<br><i>Hamlet</i><br>(Olivier, BBC)                                | 27<br><i>Hamlet 1</i>   |
| 4  | 30<br>Realism and stylisation<br>( <i>Duchess of Malfi</i> ) | 31<br><i>Ham</i> (Branagh 1996)<br>242 min; view part 1             | 3 AUGUST<br><i>Ham</i> (Branagh 1996)<br>view part 2                 | 3<br><i>Hamlet 2</i>    |
| 5  | 6<br><i>R&amp;J</i> Intro                                    | 7<br><i>R&amp;J</i> (Zeffirelli 1968)<br>152 min                    | 10<br><i>R&amp;J</i> (Luhmann, BBC,<br><i>Shakespeare in Love</i> )  | 10<br><i>R&amp;J</i>    |
| 6  | 13<br><i>Shrew</i> Casting and<br>dramaturgy                 | 14<br><i>Shrew</i> (Zeffirelli 1966)<br>121 min                     | 17<br><i>Shrew</i> (Taylor, BBC)                                     | 17<br><i>Shrew</i>      |
|    |  | <b>MID-TRIMESTER</b>  |  |                         |
|    |  | <b>BREAK</b>  |  |                         |
| 7  | 3 SEPTEMBER<br><i>Richard 3</i> Intro                        | 4<br><i>R3</i> (Loncraine 1995)<br>105 min                          | 7<br><i>R3</i> (Olivier, BBC, ESC)<br>and TEST                       | 7<br><i>R3</i>          |
| 8  | 10<br><i>Julius Caesar</i> Intro                             | 11<br><i>JC</i> (Mankiewicz 1953)<br>121 min                        | 14<br><i>JC</i> (Burge, BBC)   | 14<br><i>JC</i>         |
| 9  | 17<br>Brook and Kozintsev                                    | 18<br><i>Lear</i> (Kozintsev 1971)<br>137 min                       | 21<br><i>Lear</i> (Brook, Olivier,<br>BBC, documentary)              | 21<br><i>Lear</i>       |
| 10 | 24<br>Kurosawa and<br>adaptation                             | 25<br><i>Ran</i> (Kurosawa 1985)<br>160 min                         | 28<br><i>Throne of Blood</i> (Kurosawa<br>1957) 110 min              | 28<br>Kurosawa          |
| 11 | 1 OCTOBER<br><i>Twelfth Night</i> Intro                      | 2<br><i>TN</i> (Nunn 1996)<br>105 min                               | 5<br><i>TN</i> (Branagh, BBC,<br>Armfield, Stratf Ont.)              | 5<br><i>TN</i>          |
| 12 | 8<br>TEST  | 9<br><i>Othello</i> (Suzman 1988)<br>199 & Welles 1952              | 12<br><i>Maori Merchant of<br/>Venice</i>                            | 12<br>Finale            |

VICTORIA UNIVERSITY OF WELLINGTON  
*Te Whare Wānanga o te Ūpoko o te Ika a Māui*



**GENERAL UNIVERSITY POLICIES AND STATUTES**

Students should familiarise themselves with the University's policies and statutes, particularly those regarding assessment and course of study requirements, and formal academic grievance procedures.

**Student Conduct and Staff Conduct**

The Statute on Student Conduct together with the Policy on Staff Conduct ensure that members of the University community are able to work, learn, study and participate in the academic and social aspects of the University's life in an atmosphere of safety and respect. The Statute on Student Conduct contains information on what conduct is prohibited and what steps can be taken if there is a complaint. For queries about complaint procedures under the Statute on Student Conduct, contact the Facilitator and Disputes Advisor. This Statute is available in the Faculty Student Administration Office or on the website at:

[www.vuw.ac.nz/policy/StudentConduct](http://www.vuw.ac.nz/policy/StudentConduct).

The policy on Staff Conduct can be found on the VUW website at:

[www.vuw.ac.nz/policy/StaffConduct](http://www.vuw.ac.nz/policy/StaffConduct).

**Academic Grievances**

If you have any academic problems with your course you should talk to the tutor or lecturer concerned or, if you are not satisfied with the result of that meeting, see the Head of School or the relevant Associate Dean of your faculty. Class representatives are available to assist you with this process. If, after trying the above channels, you are still unsatisfied, formal grievance procedures can be invoked. These are set out in the Academic Grievance Policy which is published on the VUW website:

[www.vuw.ac.nz/policy/AcademicGrievances](http://www.vuw.ac.nz/policy/AcademicGrievances).

**Academic integrity and Plagiarism**

Academic integrity is about honesty – put simply it means **no cheating**. All members of the University community are responsible for upholding academic integrity, which means staff and students are expected to behave honestly, fairly and with respect for others at all times. Plagiarism is a form of cheating which undermines academic integrity. Plagiarism is **prohibited** at Victoria.

The University defines plagiarism as follows:

*Plagiarism is presenting someone else's work as if it were your own, whether you mean to or not.*

'Someone else's work' means anything that is not your own idea, even if it is presented in your own style. It includes material from books, journals or any other printed source, the work of other students or staff, information from the Internet, software programmes and other electronic material, designs and ideas. It also includes the organization or structuring of any such material.

***Plagiarism is not worth the risk.***

Any enrolled student found guilty of plagiarism will be subject to disciplinary procedures under the Statute on Student Conduct ([www.vuw.ac.nz/policy/studentconduct](http://www.vuw.ac.nz/policy/studentconduct)) and may be penalized severely. Consequences of being found guilty of plagiarism can include:

- an oral or written warning
- suspension from class or university

- cancellation of your mark for an assessment or a fail grade for the course.
- Find out more about plagiarism and how to avoid it, on the University's website at:  
[www.vuw.ac.nz/home/studying/plagiarism.html](http://www.vuw.ac.nz/home/studying/plagiarism.html).

### Students with Disabilities

The University has a policy of reasonable accommodation of the needs of students with disabilities. The policy aims to give students with disabilities an equal opportunity with all other students to demonstrate their abilities. If you have a disability, impairment or chronic medical condition (temporary, permanent or recurring) that may impact on your ability to participate, learn and/or achieve in lectures and tutorials or in meeting the course requirements, please contact the Course Co-coordinator as early in the course as possible. Alternatively you may wish to approach a Student Adviser from Disability Support Services to confidentially discuss your individual needs and the options and support that are available. Disability Support Services are located on Level 1, Robert Stout Building:

Telephone: 463-6070      Email: [disability@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:disability@vuw.ac.nz)

The name of your School's Disability Liaison Person is in the relevant prospectus or can be obtained from the Administrative Assistant.

### Student Support

Staff at Victoria want students' learning experiences at the University to be positive. If your academic progress is causing you concern, the following staff members will either help you directly or quickly put you in contact with someone who can.

|   | Staff member       | Location                    |
|---|--------------------|-----------------------------|
| FHSS                                    | Dr Allison Kirkman | Murphy Building, room 407   |
| Law                                     | Kirstin Harvey     | Old Govt Building, room 103 |
| Science, and<br>Architecture and Design | Liz Richardson     | Cotton Building, room 150   |
| Commerce and Administration             | Colin Jeffcoat     | Railway West Wing, room 119 |
| Kaiwawao Maori                          | Liz Rawhiti        | Old Kirk, room 007          |
| Manaaki Pihipihinga                     | Melissa Dunlop     | 14 Kelburn Pde, room 109D   |
| Victoria International                  | Anne Cronin        | 10 Kelburn Pde, room 202    |

The Student Services Group is also available to provide a variety of support and services. Find out more at:

[www.vuw.ac.nz/st\\_services/](http://www.vuw.ac.nz/st_services/)

Email: [student-services@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:student-services@vuw.ac.nz).

VUWSA employs two Education Coordinators who deal with academic problems and provide support, advice and advocacy services, as well as organising class representatives and faculty delegates. The Education Office is located on the ground floor, Student Union Building:

Telephone 463 6983 or 463 6984

Email: [education@vuwsa.org.nz](mailto:education@vuwsa.org.nz).