

HONG KONG BAPTIST UNIVERSITY

COURSE OUTLINE

1. COURSE TITLE

Shakespeare and His Contemporaries

2. COURSE CODE

ENGL4086

3. NO. OF UNITS

3 Units

4. OFFERING DEPARTMENT

Department of English Language and Literature

5. PREREQUISITES

ENGL2007 Literary and Comparative Studies

6. MEDIUM OF INSTRUCTION

English

7. AIMS & OBJECTIVES

- 1) To explore Shakespeare's works in light of the social, political, and philosophic contexts of Renaissance drama;
- 2) To examine the selected plays produced by Shakespeare and his contemporaries.

8. COURSE CONTENT

- I. The Social and Historical Context of Elizabethan and Jacobean Writing
- II. The Philosophy and Politics of the Age and their Relation to Literature
- III. Staging and Production Conventions
- IV. The Development of Comedy and Tragedy: 1580-1640

9. COURSE INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES (CILOs)

<u>CILO</u>	<u>By the end of the course, students should be able to:</u>
CILO 1	Demonstrate working knowledge of a range of ideas and literatures from the age of Shakespeare and his contemporaries
CILO 2	Make an analysis of how key concepts, particularly those represented visually,

	influenced the production of literatures in the Renaissance
CILO 3	Demonstrate an understanding of drama as performance with regard to the examples of Elizabethan/Jacobean theatre under consideration

10. TEACHING & LEARNING ACTIVITIES (TLAs)

<u>CILO alignment</u>	<u>Type of TLA</u>
CILO 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Read texts written by Shakespeare and his contemporaries - Be given written tasks to identify popular themes, ideas, and genres in Renaissance, Elizabethan and Jacobean drama - Work in teams and produce evidence on how Shakespeare borrowed elements from others, and he also presented original ideas of his own
CILO 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Do group projects and analyze key concepts in Shakespearean plays - Watch documentary videos that feature key developments in Elizabethan times - Access the library catalogue, the MLA database, and the internet to discover the connection between developments in visual arts and the production of key concepts in Renaissance drama - Formulate their own views on the links between art and Shakespearean drama, and communicate their findings in tutorial and written presentations, or online discussions - Write a research paper based on their cumulative research and discussions
CILO 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Learn specific theories and approaches to performance studies - Perform a play written by Shakespeare - Give and receive peer review on their performances - Keep a journal, or generate blog entries on the progress of rehearsals - Evaluate how performance can produce interpretations that are different from theoretical or textual studies of Shakespearean drama

11. ASSESSMENT METHODS (AMs)

<u>Type of Assessment Methods</u>	<u>Weighting</u>	<u>CILOs to be addressed</u>	<u>Description of Assessment Tasks</u>
Coursework	65 %	1, 2, 3	<p>Coursework may include tutorial and online discussions, oral and written presentations, journal logs, blog entries, performances, essays, documentary film screenings.</p> <p>Students will be graded on their performative exercises, communicative accuracy, participation and cooperation in group projects, interpretation of texts, and writing competence.</p>

Examination	35 %	1, 2, 3	The exam will test students' ability to highlight the background concepts and themes in Shakespearean drama, to analyze the production of Renaissance literature in light of new visual and technological developments, to argue for the relevancy of performance studies in approaching Shakespearean criticism.
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