

Department of English & Writing Studies

Drama After Shakespeare
English 3323G (001)
Winter 2019**Instructor:** James Purkis
jpurkis@uwo.ca | UC4412**Course Location:** Health Sciences
Building, Rm 236**Teaching Assistant:** Luke Jennings
ljennin6@uwo.ca | UC3405**Course Date/Time:** Tuesday 2.30-3.30 pm,
Thursday 1.30-3.30 pm**Prerequisites:** At least 60% in 1.0 of English 1020E or English 1022E or English 1024E or English 1035E or English 1036E or English 1042E or both of English 1027F/G and English 1028F/G, or permission of the Department.

Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

Course Description

The decades following Shakespeare's retirement witnessed the production of some extraordinary drama. This half-course will range from dark tragedies to raucous comedies by Middleton, Webster, Massinger, and Behn.

Objectives:

By the end of the course, successful students will have developed:

- An advanced understanding of the period's drama and of the key changes that the theatre underwent from the second to the seventh decade of the seventeenth century;
- Critical tools through which to analyze the period's drama, in particular through historical criticism and theories that attend to gender, sexuality, economics and social structure, and dramatic genre;
- An advanced understanding of metre;
- An advanced understanding of seventeenth-century theatrical techniques and conventions;
- Through a range of writing assignments, a clear and concise writing style, free of technical errors;
- The ability to pursue and express a complex argument.

Course Materials

It is not essential that you use these specific editions, which are available from the bookstore, but I advise that you do so:

Thomas Middleton, *Women Beware Women, and Other Plays*. ed. by Richard Dutton. Oxford University Press, 2009

John Webster, *The Duchess of Malfi, and Other Plays*. Ed. by Rene Weiss. Oxford University Press, 2009

Philip Massinger, *A New Way to Pay Old Debts*, New Mermaids Series, ed. by T.W. Cruik. Bloomsbury, 1993

Aphra Behn, *The Rover*, New Mermaids Series, ed. by Robyn Bolam. Bloomsbury, 2012

Methods of Evaluation

The grade for the course will be arrived at as follows:

Short response paper 1	Feb 7	15%
Short response paper 2	Mar 7	15%
In-class quizzes (2)	unannounced	10% (5% each)
Essay	April 4	25%
Final Examination	April exam period	35%

Short Response Papers

Students will write a short response paper of around 800 words. The question will be set in class a week or so before the paper is due. Students may be asked to discuss a particular claim or question about one of the plays, to respond to a piece of critical reading, or analyze a performance.

Quizzes

Students will be given a short passage from the play currently under study and be asked to identify its dramatic context and reflect on its language, metre, themes in relation to the rest of the play, or staging. These quizzes are unannounced. An earlier class will prepare students for what is required to answer quizzes effectively.

Essay

A 2000 word essay. Questions will be given in class four weeks before it is due. Your essay must draw critically on at least one piece of secondary reading that is directly relevant to your topic. Spark notes and its equivalents on the market or internet sources such as Schmoop may be consulted (and if consulted, should be included in your bibliography), but do not fulfil this assignment's secondary reading requirement. Please note the warning about plagiarism elsewhere in the course guide. If you are unsure about your scholarly practice, please discuss it with one of your instructors.

Students are fully responsible for looking at and being familiar with the information posted on the department website at <http://www.uwo.ca/english/undergraduate/Student%20Information.html>.

Attendance

Absenteeism amounting to more than 25% of class time will result in failure in the course.

Submission of Assignments

Please submit a printed copy of all assignments and an electronic copy through OWL. Paper copies may be given to me in person or submitted using the English Department dropbox, located next to the English Office (University College, Room 2401). Both the electronic and paper copies must be submitted on time for the assignment not be deemed as late. Work that is submitted after the due date, and which is not subject to academic accommodation, will be penalized by 2% for each day that it is late. *Please remember that all course work must be submitted by the last day of classes.*

Email Policy

I will usually be able to respond to emails within 24 hours Monday to Friday, but I will not necessarily answer email at the weekend. It is always very much better to talk to either your professor or the course teaching assistant in person than it is to discuss ideas by email.

Accommodation

Students seeking academic accommodation on medical grounds for any missed tests, exams, participation components and/or assignments worth 10% or more of their final grade must apply to the Academic Counselling office of their home Faculty and provide documentation. Academic accommodation cannot be granted by the instructor or department. Documentation shall be submitted, as soon as possible, to the Office of the Dean of the student's Faculty of registration, together with a request for relief specifying the nature of the accommodation being requested. The UWO Policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness and further information regarding this policy can be found at http://uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_medical.pdf.

Downloadable Student Medical Certificate (SMC):

http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf

Academic Offences

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at

http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf

Plagiarism:

Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea or passage from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is a major academic offence.

Plagiarism Checking:

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com <http://www.turnitin.com>.

All instances of plagiarism will be reported to the Chair of Undergraduate Studies. Proven cases of plagiarism will result in a grade of zero for the assignment. Subsequent offences will result in failure for the course.

Support Services

Registrarial Services <http://www.registrar.uwo.ca>

Student Support Services <https://student.uwo.ca/psp/heprdweb/?cmd=login>

Services provided by the USC <http://westernusc.ca/services/>

Student Development Centre <http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/>

Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to MentalHealth@Western: <http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/> for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

Timetable

January	8	Introduction	
	10	Middleton, <i>The Changeling</i>	
	15	Middleton, <i>The Changeling</i>	
	17	Middleton, <i>The Changeling</i>	
	22	Middleton, <i>The Changeling</i>	
	24	Middleton, <i>Women Beware Women</i>	
	29	Middleton, <i>Women Beware Women</i>	
	31	Middleton, <i>Women Beware Women</i>	
February	5	Middleton, <i>Women Beware Women</i> / Webster, <i>The Duchess of Malfi</i>	
	7	Webster, <i>The Duchess of Malfi</i>	First short response due
	12	Webster, <i>The Duchess of Malfi</i>	
	14	Webster, <i>The Duchess of Malfi</i>	
[18-22 Spring Reading Week No classes]			
	26	Massinger, <i>A New Way to Pay Old Debts</i>	
	28	Massinger, <i>A New Way to Pay Old Debts</i>	
March	5	Massinger, <i>A New Way to Pay Old Debts</i>	
	7	Massinger, <i>A New Way to Pay Old Debts</i>	Second short response due
	12	Webster, <i>A Cure for a Cuckold</i>	
	14	Webster, <i>A Cure for a Cuckold</i>	
	19	Webster, <i>A Cure for a Cuckold</i>	
	21	Webster, <i>A Cure for a Cuckold</i>	
	26	Behn, <i>The Rover</i>	
	28	Behn, <i>The Rover</i>	
April	2	Behn, <i>The Rover</i>	
	4	Behn, <i>The Rover</i>	Essay due
	9	Revision and remainders.	