

---

---

## LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Western University is located on the traditional territories of the Anishinaabek, Haudenosaunee, Lūnaapéewak, and Chonnonton Nations, on lands connected with the London Township and Sombra Treaties of 1796 and the Dish with One Spoon Covenant Wampum. This land continues to be home to diverse Indigenous Peoples (First Nations, Métis and Inuit) whom we recognize as contemporary stewards of the land and vital contributors of our society.

---

## DRAMA AFTER SHAKESPEARE

### ENG3323F (001)

Fall 2022

**Instructor:** James Purkis | [jpurkis@uwo.ca](mailto:jpurkis@uwo.ca)

**Course Day/Time:** Tuesday 10.30-11.30  
Thursday 11.30-1.30

**Delivery Type:** In-person classes: Talbot College, Rm 203.

**Prerequisites:** At least 60% in 1.0 of English 1020-1999 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 Shakespeare's last play, written in collaboration with John Fletcher, through works by Thomas Middleton and John Webster, to drama from the Restoration.

## OBJECTIVES.

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

- an increasingly advanced understanding of early modern drama and how it was created and first performed
  - an understanding of the culture of early-modern England, particularly as it pertains to modern constructions of gender and sexuality.
  - a developing facility with a variety of approaches, theories, and techniques that can be applied to the study of dramatic literature, including a critical awareness of knowledge systems that shape our analysis of the text.
  - an ability to reflect on their own varied and intersecting positionalities (i.e. how their thinking is shaped by their histories and cultures)
  - proficiency with the essential tools of literary scholarship (library catalogues, content databases)
  - an introduction to specialized research tools and their uses
-

- 
- a developing ability to analyze a piece of literature within its specific cultural context
  - a developing ability to apply a variety of scholarly or theoretical approaches to the analysis of texts
  - the opportunity to develop a clear, concise and compelling prose style, free of technical errors
  - the opportunity to develop an ability to structure a complex and engaging argument
  - the opportunity to develop the capacity to engage in class discussions and respond meaningfully to lecture material and peer discussion while using textual evidence as support

### COURSE MATERIALS

Editions of early modern plays vary, and it is *highly advisable* that you use the editions listed here and available at the Bookstore (except for the Shakespeare and Fletcher text, which is available for download at: <https://shakespeare.folger.edu/shakespeares-works/the-two-noble-kinsmen/download/>). I shall refer to these editions in class.

William Shakespeare and John Fletcher, *The Two Noble Kinsmen*, ed. Barbara Mowat and Paul Werstine (New York: Simon and Schuster, 2010)

Thomas Middleton, *Women Beware Women and Other Plays*, ed. Richard Dutton (Oxford: OUP, 1999)

John Webster, *The Duchess of Malfi and Other Plays*, ed. Rene Weiss (Oxford: OUP, 1996)

Aphra Behn, *The Rover*, ed. Robyn Bolam (London: Bloomsbury, 2012)

### METHODS OF EVALUATION

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

Short responses (2 in total)	20%	Due Monday 10 October and Monday 7 November
Passage analysis	10%	Unannounced
Essay one	30%	Due Friday December 2
Final exam	40%	December examination period

### DESCRIPTION OF ASSIGNMENTS

#### SHORT RESPONSES.

Students will write a short response paper of 600-800 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, or to respond to a piece of critical reading. The possible formats for responses will be discussed in class.

#### PASSAGE ANALYSIS.

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, and themes in relation to the rest of the play. You are not given notice of this analysis. An earlier class will prepare students for what is required to perform this assignment.

#### ESSAYS.

A 2000-word essay. Essay questions will be given in class and posted on OWL around 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 your instructor.

#### FINAL EXAM.

A 2-hr examination will be held during the December exam period.

#### GENERAL INFORMATION

I will usually answer email inquiries within 24 hours, although I will not always – or even often – do so over the weekend. It is almost always better to discuss complex ideas in person or face-to-pixelated-face via Zoom during office hours. The times and links for Office Hours will be posted on OWL.

#### **Please submit electronic copies of all assignments through OWL.**

You are each given THREE grace days, which you can use at once, or share between your assignments. When your grace days are gone, they are gone, and you are faced with a late assignment. In view of these days and of the advance notice given for each assignment, further extensions will only be given in accordance with the statement on academic accommodation below or through a request for accommodation from academic counselling. If you submit an assignment after the due date and the expiration of your grace days, the grade will be reduced by a penalty of 2% for each calendar day that it is late. Note that Senate regulations stipulate that **ALL ASSIGNMENTS MUST BE COMPLETED BY THE LAST DAY OF CLASSES.**

#### ATTENDANCE

Attendance is mandatory in all classes and tutorials. In cases of excessive absenteeism (e.g. more than 9 unexcused hours for a half course), which are not accounted for by either academic consideration or accommodation, students may be debarred from taking the final examination, and will receive an official warning to this effect by or before the course drop date (see Senate policy).

#### INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY/COPYRIGHT

All instructor-written materials (e.g. PowerPoints, lecture notes, oral lectures) for this course are created solely for students' personal use within the course, and remain the instructor's intellectual property. Further reproduction, fixation, distribution, transmission, dissemination, communication, or any other uses, without securing the consent of the copyright owner (the course instructor) may be an infringement of copyright. You may not distribute, email, or otherwise communicate these materials to any other person. These limitations extend to recording, photographing, or sharing lectures (online or in-person) and lecture material without permission. Posting the instructor's content from this course to online course sharing sites like OneClass or Course Hero without permission is both an infringement of intellectual property law and a violation of academic integrity guidelines. The instructor will pass these cases on to the Western University Ombudsperson or their Department Chair as appropriate.

#### ACCOMMODATION POLICIES

Students with disabilities work with Accessible Education (formerly SSD) which provides recommendations for accommodation based on medical documentation or psychological and cognitive testing. The accommodation policy can be found here: [Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities](#).

Students seeking academic accommodation on medical grounds for any missed tests, exams, participation components and/or assignments worth (either alone or in combination) 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 Student Medical Certificate (SMC) can be found at [https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf](https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf).

The full policy is set out here:

[https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/accommodation\\_medical.pdf](https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_medical.pdf).

#### **RELIGIOUS ACCOMMODATION:**

Students should consult the University's list of recognized religious holidays, and should give reasonable notice in writing, prior to the holiday, to the Instructor and an Academic Counsellor if their course requirements will be affected by a religious observance. Additional information is given in the [Western Multicultural Calendar](#).

#### **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](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/>

Academic Support & Engagement <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

THIS SCHEDULE IS OPEN TO MINOR REVISION. WE WILL STUDY THESE PLAYS, BUT THE TIMING MAY VARY.

### SEPTEMBER

Th 8            Introductions  
Tu 13          Fletcher and Shakespeare, *Two Noble Kinsmen*  
Th 15                 *Kinsmen*  
Tu 20                 *Kinsmen*  
Th 22                 *Kinsmen*  
Tu 27          Middleton and Rowley, *The Changeling*  
Th 29                 *Changeling*

### OCTOBER

Tu 4                 *Changeling*  
Th 6                 *Changeling*  
Tu 11          Middleton, *Women Beware Women*  
Th 13                 *Women*  
Tu 18                 *Women*  
Th 20                 *Women*  
Tu 25          Webster and Rowley, *A Cure for a Cuckold*  
Th 27                 *Cuckold*

### OCT 31-NOV 6 FALL READING WEEK | NO CLASSES

### NOVEMBER

Tu 8                 *Cuckold*  
Th 10                 *Cuckold*  
Tu 15          Webster, *The Duchess of Malfi*  
Th 17                 *Duchess*  
Tu 22                 *Duchess*  
Th 24                 *Duchess*  
Tu 29          Behn, *The Rover*

### DECEMBER

Th 1                 *Rover*  
Tu 6                 *Rover*  
Th 8                 *Rover* and revision

---