

OEOE02

Open Elective in Optional English : Shakespeare's Women—Readings in Gender and Politics

This paper is open to students of all backgrounds who are willing to invest time and energy in close reading and interpretation. Classroom methodology will range across lectures, table-readings, group-work and responses through writing tasks. Students taking the course will need to collaborate on a Shakespeare exhibition featuring performances, posters/installations, translations and panel discussions.

Key Gender Issues in Considering Shakespeare: (10 hrs)

Body; Performance; Roles

Women In Passing: (10 hrs)

Ophelia and Gertrude in Hamlet; Cordelia in King Lear; Lady Macbeth; Juliet

Women Passing: (15 hrs)

Rosalind and Celia in As You Like It; Portia and Nerissa in The Merchant of Venice; Viola in Twelfth Night

The Idea of Women Talking Back: (10 hrs)

Revisions and challenges in adaptation—Toni Morrison/Desdemona—Margaret Atwood/Hag-Seed.

Bibliography

1. Rackin, Phyllis: Shakespeare and Women, Oxford, 2005.
2. Gay, Penny: As She Likes it; Shakespeare's Unruly Women, Routledge, 1994.
3. Carney, Jo Eldridge: Women Talk Back to Shakespeare; Contemporary Adaptations and Appropriations, Routledge, 2021