

FW 2022-23

AP/EN 3545 3.0M (W)	Elizabethan and Jacobean Drama
Course Director:	Deanne Williams Office Atkinson 708 Ext. 44752 e-mail dmw@yorku.ca
Time:	Monday 11.30 – 2:30
Delivery Format:	SEMINAR
Description:	This survey course will familiarize students with the work of Shakespeare's Elizabethan and Jacobean contemporaries with emphasis on the dramatic language of the periods. The course will focus on major Elizabethan and Jacobean plays, exploring the literary, cultural, and historical contexts in which the plays were composed and performed. We will read representative works by Christopher Marlowe, William Shakespeare, and John Webster. As we proceed through the course, we will engage in ongoing conversations about the playwrights' representation of race, class, sexuality and gender, language, and nationhood, as well as their engagements with European literature, English history and contemporary politics, the work of visual artists and musicians, and the classical world. We will also explore how the works have been interpreted and adapted in the twentieth and twenty-first century, with a view to understanding their enduring popularity and relevance for today's world. Weekly lectures will be supplemented by film and other visual materials in order to provide historical and cultural contexts for understanding the plays. Class discussions will address the language of the plays (poetic metre and form, imagery, and rhetorical devices), their dramatic and literary conventions (genre, stage directions, meta-theatricality, characters, casting, and costuming), and the wide range of historical and topical issues that the plays explore.
Category:	C
Historical Requirement:	Time Period I
Requirements:	Midterm Test (10%) Final Essay/Project (30%) Group Presentation (20%) Final Exam (30%) Attendance and Participation (10%)
Reading List:	Christopher Marlowe, <i>Tamburlaine</i> and <i>Doctor Faustus</i> in <i>Doctor Faustus and Other Plays</i> ed. David Bevington (Oxford); Shakespeare, <i>As You Like It</i> ed. Frances Dolan (Pelican); <i>Othello</i> ed. Russ McDonald (Pelican); John Webster, <i>The Duchess of Malfi</i> in <i>The Duchess of Malfi and Other Plays</i> ed. Rene Weis (Oxford)
Open To:	Year 3,4