

Veranstalter:	N.N.
Thema:	Shakespeare: Early Tragedies and <i>Macbeth</i> [AA-A2, ENG-6/a, AA-W, AA-WB]
Art der Veranstaltung:	Seminar Ib
Veranstaltungsnummer:	53-543
Zeit:	2st., Do 16-18
Raum:	Phil 1263
Beginn:	23. Oktober 2014

Course description:

The course will serve as a general introduction to the techniques of literary drama, including characterisation, rhythm and metre as well as generic formulas. It is intended to repeat, deepen and develop the participants' knowledge about dramatic writing gained in the introductory course (Ia). The main objective will be an extended discussion of Shakespeare's approach to tragedy. We will start with Shakespeare's 'slasher piece' *Titus Andronicus*, including the seminal movie version produced and directed by Julie Taymor. *Titus* is to be followed by the very dissimilar pieces *Romeo and Juliet* and *Richard III*, the one highlighting the aspect of fate and the other the aspect of power obtained through cunning, violence and terror. All these early concepts are to be found again in Shakespeare's outstanding tale of gruesomeness, *Macbeth*, which, in a way, is a rewriting of both *Titus* and *Richard III*. With the important exception of *Romeo and Juliet*, Shakespeare seems to harp on a specific view of history as repeating cycles of violence. One of our topics to discuss will be the question whether it is possible to break this cyclical movement of history or whether it is the fate of men to relentlessly pursue brutal domination over each other.

Needed Texts (no e-books):

Shakespeare, William. 1951. *Macbeth*. (*The Arden Shakespeare*.) Ed. by Kenneth Muir. London.
 Shakespeare, William. 1981. *King Richard III*. (*The Arden Shakespeare*.) Ed. by Antony Hammond. London.

Shakespeare, William. 1995. *Titus Andronicus*. (*The Arden Shakespeare*.) Ed. by Jonathan Bale.
 Shakespeare, William. 2012. *Romeo and Juliet*. (*The Arden Shakespeare*.) Ed. by René Weis.

Note: Any *critical* edition will suffice (Arden, Oxford, Cambridge etc.).

Introductory reading:

Jenkins, Harold. 2001. *Structural Problems in Shakespeare. Lectures and essays*. London.
 Kullmann, Thomas. 2005. *William Shakespeare. Eine Einführung*. Berlin. [excellent introduction]
 Pfister, Manfred. 1977. *Das Drama. Theorie und Analyse*. München. [most recent edition]
 Schabert, Ina. 1997. *Englische Literaturgeschichte aus der Sicht der Geschlechterforschung*. Stuttgart.
 Schabert, Ina. (ed.) ⁴2000. *Shakespeare-Handbuch*. Stuttgart.

Course requirements:

Regular attendance, intimate acquaintance with the texts; active participation. *Studienleistung*: protocol, presentation or other; *Schein*: term paper.

Sprechstunde während der Vorlesungszeit:	tba
Sprechstunde in der vorlesungsfreien Zeit:	tba