

Prof. Dr. Stefan Horlacher

S Shakespeare's Tragedies Tue (3) SE 2/211

It is high time to once again grapple with Shakespeare, not only because this year is the 400th anniversary of his death, but also because his tragedies are just as relevant as ever and available in film versions of ever-increasing quality.

This seminar will be organised along a tripartite structure, namely

- a comprehensive introductory overview of Shakespeare's tragedies and their historical background;
- an introduction to theories of intermediality;
- an introduction to the theory of tragedy;
- a critical analysis of the film and text versions of three of his major tragedies, i.e. *Hamlet*, *Othello*, and *Macbeth*.

These plays/film versions will be analysed according to the specific motifs and themes relevant to each text/film: for example, the subversion of nature and binary oppositions in *Macbeth*; the theme and literary tradition of revenge in *Hamlet*; and the notions of power, colonialism, and femininity in *Othello*.

Please buy the third Arden editions of the following texts:

- William Shakespeare. *Hamlet*. Ed. Ann Thompson and Neil Taylor. London: Black, 2005 (The Arden Shakespeare). [ISBN 1904271332]
- . *Macbeth*. Eds. Sandra Clark and Pamela Mason. London; New York: Bloomsbury, 2015 (The Arden Shakespeare). [ISBN 1904271413]
- . *Othello*. Ed. A. J. Honigmann. London: Black, 2001 (The Arden Shakespeare). [ISBN 1903436451]

In case the Arden edition is not available, please purchase the Oxford World's Classics edition.

A comprehensive bibliography will be made available during the first session.

NB: This seminar is designed as a compact seminar. This means that the first sessions of the seminar will take place in weeks two and four. The seminar itself will take place on a weekend (Saturday and Sunday) in June/July 2016