

- Faculté des lettres et sciences humaines
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Early Modern Literature : Shakespeare and his rivals (2AN1307)

Filières concernées	Nombre d'heures	Validation	Crédits ECTS
Pilier principal B A - langue et littérature anglaises	Séminaire: 2 ph	écrit: 4 h	5
Pilier secondaire B A - langue et littérature anglaises	Séminaire: 2 ph	cont. continu	5

ph=période hebdomadaire, pg=période globale, j=jour, dj=demi-jour, h=heure, min=minute

Période d'enseignement:

- Semestre Printemps

Equipe enseignante:

Professor Margaret Tudeau-Clayton

Objectifs:

The aims of this seminar are:

- to extend students' knowledge of Shakespeare in the context of early modern theatre
- to develop students' skills in analysing dramatic texts in their historical contexts
- to develop students' oral and written skills in English

Contenu:

In this seminar we will look at Shakespearean drama within the framework of the competitive relations between rival acting companies and their playwrights in early modern London. We will start by reading *The Jew of Malta* by Shakespeare's principal English predecessor and early rival, Christopher Marlowe. We will then study *The Merchant of Venice*, which is arguably Shakespeare's response and discuss the likenesses and differences both in the treatment of various topics - the outsider, money, trade, women and rivalry itself - and in the form their drama takes. With the same questions in mind we will then look at *Volpone* by Ben Jonson for whom Shakespeare was the main rival in the genre of comedy.

Forme de l'évaluation:

Students will be expected to participate actively in class and give one oral presentation (15-20 minutes) (30%); write one in-class analysis of text (30%) and one essay (40%)

Documentation:

Electronic copies of the playtexts can be found online. *Volpone* is also in the Norton Anthology of English Literature vol 1.

Pré-requis:

Successful completion of the first year introduction to literature course.

Forme de l'enseignement:

Class discussions of the playtexts, oral presentations, in-class writing.