

Elizabethan Drama (BS Semester V)

Course Outline:

1. Introduction to the Renaissance Age.
2. Introduction to the Elizabethan Theatre
3. Dramatists in focus; Marlowe and Shakespeare
4. Reading of Dr Faustus
5. Discussion on his character and themes.
6. Reading of Macbeth
7. Discussion and Analysis of the Play.
8. Reading of Hamlet.
9. Discourse on the characters and themes.
10. Reading of Merchant of Venice
11. Confab on various aspects of the text.
12. Sample Exam Questions - Discussion/Assessment.

Reference Books/Articles:

Renaissance Age:

<https://www.bl.uk/shakespeare/articles/key-features-of-renaissance-culture>

<https://www.history.com/topics/renaissance/renaissance>

<https://www.jstor.org/stable/43446595?seq=1>

Elizabethan Theatre:

https://surface.syr.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1585&context=honors_capstone

Christopher Marlowe:

<https://www.biography.com/writer/christopher-marlowe>

<https://www.bl.uk/shakespeare/articles/christopher-marlowe-the-man-the-myth-and-the-mighty-line>

<https://www.ukessays.com/essays/english-literature/christopher-marlowe-in-the-renaissance-literary-world-english-literature-essay.php>

https://shodhganga.inflibnet.ac.in/bitstream/10603/9275/6/06_chapter%201.pdf

Shakespeare:

<https://www.biography.com/writer/william-shakespeare>

https://www.jstor.org/stable/3250748?read-now=1&seq=1#metadata_info_tab_contents

<https://www.pbslearningmedia.org/collection/shakespeare-uncovered/>

Dr Faustus:

https://books.google.com.pk/books/about/The_Tragical_History_of_Doctor_Faustus.html?id=yPxdv3_cwHQC&printsec=frontcover&source=kp_read_button&redir_esc=y#v=onepage&q&f=false

[The_Tragical_History_of_Doctor_Faustus.html?](https://books.google.com.pk/books/about/The_Tragical_History_of_Doctor_Faustus.html?id=yPxdv3_cwHQC&printsec=frontcover&source=kp_read_button&redir_esc=y#v=onepage&q&f=false)

[id=yPxdv3_cwHQC&printsec=frontcover&source=kp_read_button&redir_esc=y#v=onepage&q&f=false](https://books.google.com.pk/books/about/The_Tragical_History_of_Doctor_Faustus.html?id=yPxdv3_cwHQC&printsec=frontcover&source=kp_read_button&redir_esc=y#v=onepage&q&f=false)

Discussion/Reference Articles:

<https://extra.shu.ac.uk/emls/si-16/duxfdrfs.htm>

<http://facta.junis.ni.ac.rs/lal/lal200902/lal200902-07.pdf>

<http://www.luminarium.org/renlit/larsonmarlowe.htm>

https://www.researchgate.net/publication/336209641_Dr_Faustus_as_a_Morality_Play

<https://www.ukessays.com/essays/english-literature/dr-faustus-as-a-literary-tragic-hero-english-literature-essay.php>

<https://www.gradesaver.com/dr-faustus>

Macbeth:

<https://www.folgerdigitaltexts.org/html/Mac.html>

Analysis/Reference Articles:

<https://scholarworks.uno.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=3091&context=td>

<https://pdfs.semanticscholar.org/5197/>

a290f3cef4315c68123b4aa8ddbbefa1156c.pdf
<https://files.eric.ed.gov/fulltext/EJ1080666.pdf>
<https://www.ukessays.com/essays/philosophy/who-do-you-thinks-responsible-for-macbeths-downfall-philosophy-essay.php>
<https://www.thoughtco.com/ambition-of-macbeth-2985019>
<https://www.iiste.org/Journals/index.php/RHSS/article/viewFile/23445/24160>
<http://www.ijelr.in/4.4.17/58-60%20HARISH%20NEELALA.pdf>

Hamlet:

<https://www.folgerdigitaltexts.org/html/Ham.html>

Discourse/Reference Articles:

<https://openjournals.library.sydney.edu.au/index.php/SSE/article/viewFile/512/484>
<https://www.bl.uk/shakespeare/articles/hamlet-and-revenge>
<https://pdfs.semanticscholar.org/0e1d/4a53ffb1ac845b822f3d7dcfe8fbd6dc1317.pdf>
<https://www.newyorker.com/books/page-turner/hamlet-a-love-story>
https://ddd.uab.cat/pub/tfg/2016/169519/TFG_annafluvia.pdf
<http://www.dpi-proceedings.com/index.php/dtssehs/article/viewFile/19116/18610>

Merchant of Venice:

<http://shakespeare.mit.edu/merchant/full.html>

Confab/Reference Articles:

<https://scholarcommons.usf.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1064&context=etd>
<http://www.worldscientificnews.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/01/WSN-50-2016-186-196.pdf>

<https://www.wsws.org/en/articles/2012/04/merc-a14.html>

<https://www.smithsonianmag.com/arts-culture/why-scholars-still-debate-whether-or-not-shakespeares-merchant-venice-anti-semitic-180958867/>

<http://www.ajms.co.in/sites/ajms2015/index.php/ajms/article/view/2395>

<https://scholarship.law.nd.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1942&context=ndlr>

<https://uh.edu/honors/Programs-Minors/honors-and-the-schools/houston-teachers-institute/curriculum-units/pdfs/2002/shakespeares-characters/green-02-shakespeare.pdf>

Video/Audio Links:

Dr Faustus:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ft6Rywxk63k>

Hamlet:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Oq5HKX1vicM>

Macbeth:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ms5wRzOmQG8>

Merchant of Venice:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cRrQ5kaLHNc>

Sample Exam Questions/Assessment:

- Write an extensive note on the Elizabethan age, highlighting its characteristics.
- Discuss the reasons that led to the progression of Elizabethan drama.
- Probe on Christopher Marlowe as a father of English Drama.
- Shakespeare's play are the true embodiment of the

Renaissance spirit. Justify.

- Elaborate on Patriarchy at clash with Feminism in Shakespearean writings.
- Discuss the character of Hamlet, with respect to Ophelia, procrastination, his spirit of revenge and his inability to do so.
- Analyse Hamlet's relationship with lead women characters in the play, Gertrude and Ophelia, and how his propinquity with these two mar his cognisance of the second sex.
- How does Shakespeare contrives various themes to establish the tragic-comedy effect in Merchant of Venice.
- Narrate the references from the text in favour or against Merchant of Venice as an anti-Semantic play while discussing the character of Shylock and his relationship with Antonio in depth.
- Character of Portia came alive with the feministic incarnations, elaborate.
- Explain the Marxist undertones in Merchant of Venice.
- Macbeth is the most gruelling tragedy ever composed, give references from the text to support the claim.
- Annihilation of Macbeth was multi-factored, explain each in detail.
- Discuss the character of Lady Macbeth, her life and her death.
- Develop a contract between Dr Faustus, Hamlet and Macbeth, what factors unite them in their tragedy and devastation.
- Shed light on the women in Shakespeare; Portia, Ophelia and Lady Macbeth, from a feministic perspective, how do they violate the societal code to embolden their individuality.

If any student still has any difficulty in understanding any particular concept from the given topics, I can be reached at raheenfkhan@hotmail.com. It will be the responsibility of the class CR/GR to gather up the queries and forward them to me once a week.

Stay safe and enjoy studying.

**Best Regards,
Ms. Raheen Fatimah Khan**