

PhD Course Shakespeare's Contemporaries

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This course will examine the theatre of Shakespeare's contemporaries such as Christopher Marlowe, Ben Jonson, Thomas Kyd, Thomas Middleton, John Webster, Thomas Dekker and John Marston by focusing on their theatrical and cultural contexts. Detailed literary analysis will be complemented by discussion of issues as **history, gender and sexuality, medicine, religion, witchcraft, seasonal festivity, and popular culture.**

✂ TRAGEDY

- I. Christopher Marlowe (1564-93)
 - *Tamburlaine, Part I* (1587-88) & Shakespeare's *King Richard III*
 - *The Jew of Malta* (1589-90) & Shakespeare's *The Merchant of Venice*
- II. Revenge Tragedy
 - Thomas Kyd (1558-1594) *The Spanish Tragedy* (1582 and 1592)
 - Shakespeare's *Hamlet, Titus Andronicus*
- III. Thomas Middleton (1580-1627) and William Rowley
 - *The Witch* (1609) & Shakespeare's *Macbeth*
 - *The Changeling* (license 1622)
- IV. John Marston (1576-25)
 - *The Malcontent* (1603)
- V. Thomas Heywood
 - *A Woman Killed with Kindness* (1603)
- VI. John Webster (1580-1634)
 - *The White Devil* (1612)
 - *The Duchess of Malfi* (1612-13)
- VII. Closet Drama: Elizabeth Tanfield Lady Cary (1585-1639)
 - *The Tragedy of Mariam* (1613)
- VIII. John Ford *'Tis Pity She's a Whore* (1629-33 pr. 1633) & *The Broken Heart* (1625-33, pr. 1633)

✂ COMEDY

- IX. Ben Jonson (1572-1637)
 - *Every Man in His Humour* (1598)
 - *Volpone, or The Foxe* (1605)
- X. Thomas Dekker (1572-1632)
 - *The Shoemaker's Holiday* (1599) as a London City Comedy
- XI. Robert Greene (1558-1592)
 - *The Historie of the Honourable Friar Bacon and Friar Bungay* (1590)