

If you would like this information in large print, Braille or on a disk, please contact Janet Bunting on 01524 592716 or email j.bunting@lancaster.ac.uk

LANCASTER
UNIVERSITY



Course Information
Shakespeare's Clowns (09SP22)
Tutor: Dr Stephen Longstaffe
Monday 27 to Friday 31 July 2009
9.15 am - 12.15pm

Shakespeare wrote for a stable theatrical troupe that were together for more than twenty years. One of the main features of the troupe was that one actor was known as the 'clown', and would have specific comic roles - sometimes major, sometimes quite minor - written for him. This course will explore Shakespeare's clown roles, including Launce, Bottom, Dogberry and Feste, looking at the way he shaped his comic parts to suit particular actors' abilities and the development of his comic vision within the theatrical contexts of his time. We will also look at how some film/tv versions have envisaged Shakespeare's clown parts.

Teaching methods

The course will be taught in a seminar style where you will be encouraged to contribute your ideas.

Course content -

The following topics will be covered:

- The late Elizabethan and early Jacobean theatre scenes
- The 'clown' role
- The great clowns – Richard Tarlton, William Kemp and Robert Armin
- Comedy and humour in Shakespearean drama

By the end of the course you can expect to:

- have an informed knowledge of the theatre conditions and conventions for which Shakespeare wrote
- Have improved your understanding of comic roles in Shakespeare

What to bring

A notebook and pen

Copies of *Twelfth Night* and *A Midsummer Night's Dream*.

About the Course Tutor - Dr Stephen Longstaffe

Stephen has been teaching Shakespeare in higher education for nearly twenty years, and is currently specialising in Shakespeare's clowns. In his spare time he is a member of a comedy improvisation troupe.

Booklist

If you wish to do some preparatory reading you will find any of the following books useful. This is entirely optional, but may enhance your enjoyment of the course and help you to gain more from it.

William Shakespeare, *Twelfth Night**
*A Midsummer Night's Dream**
Two Gentlemen of Verona
Much Ado About Nothing
King Lear

* These plays will be discussed in some detail, so please bring along a copy of the text

Cancellation Policy

If you wish to cancel your place on a course and/or your accommodation please do so in writing to the Summer Programme office. A cancellation is only effective when written confirmation is received by us.

Residents: Please note that your deposit will not be refunded if you cancel your booking. For cancellations of course places after 26 June 2009, or if you fail to register, the full course and accommodation fees are payable.

Non-residents: When notification of cancellation of your place on a course is received in writing on or before 26 June, 20% of the course fee is payable. The remaining 80% of the course fee will be refunded to you. For cancellations of course places after 26 June, or if you fail to register for the course, the full course fee is payable.

Please note: If a course has not reached viable numbers by 26 June 2009 the course may be cancelled. Students already enrolled will have the opportunity to switch to another course where there are still vacancies, or will be given a full refund.

Insurance

You are strongly advised to take out personal insurance against the financial loss which you would suffer if you were to cancel your booking. Personal property left unattended during your stay is not insured, and so you are advised to take out insurance for your personal possessions while you are here.

Data Protection

The information about yourself that you give us is confidential and will be treated in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998. Information will be processed primarily for maintenance of the student record, the management of academic processes and for keeping you informed of our courses. Information will be released to the Higher Education Statistics Agency and may also be released to anyone funding your course. If you

YOU WILL RECEIVE A SUMMER PROGRAMME HANDBOOK BEFORE THE START OF THE COURSE

subsequently wish to use credits towards a qualification at another institution, your details may be released to that institution also. If you do not wish to receive information about future courses, please contact us. The University's Data Protection Policy is available at www.lancs.ac.uk/depts/studreg/ or by contacting the Department.

Special Requirements

If you have a disability or particular requirement we will do our best to ensure that you can take part in the course on equal terms. We will be happy to discuss your requirements and make any necessary arrangements such as communicating with the tutor or sending you information in large print or on a disk. We can only make such arrangements if you let us know what your needs are preferably well in advance of the course.

Please contact Janet Bunting on **01524 592716**
or send an email to: **dce.student.support@lancaster.ac.uk**

Parking on the University Campus

Non-residents - In order to park on campus you need to buy a Play & Display ticket (£2 for 4 hours or £3 all day) or buy a scratch-card from the Reception Building, which is for a single use only and costs £3 per day. Please note that the Summer Programme Office cannot issue parking permits.

Blue Badge holders - free parking spaces are available at all times.

Residents - the Conference Office will provide you with a parking pass when you register on Sunday, at no extra charge.

Enjoying your course

We want you to enjoy your course and your time at Lancaster University. If there is anything which you feel could be improved during your stay please contact a member of the Summer Programme team.

If you would like advice on any aspect of the programmes offered by DCE, please contact the departmental office

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E-mail: summer.programme@lancaster.ac.uk

Office hours: 9.00 am – 5.00 pm Monday to Friday
