Title and Code of Course:
The Beginnings of Modernity: Rewriting Shakespeare from the Restoration to Romanticism
ERP-B-TNA 3168

Instructor’s Name: Dr. Veronika Ruttkay

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Credit Point Value: 6
Number of Lessons per Week: 2
Type of Course: Seminar ☒
Lecture ☐
Method of Evaluation: Oral Examination ☐
In-Class Presentation ☒
Other ☒

Course Description:
The course aims to introduce MA students to issues of Shakespeare’s reception from the age of the Restoration to the early 19th-century. Focusing on the beginnings of modern British culture, we are going to investigate phenomena from the fields of literature, literary criticism, theatre, painting, political writing, caricature, and education, in order to see how various authors and audiences responded to, and reshaped, Shakespeare’s works in order to formulate their own position. The course also introduces students to the practice and methodology of doing independent scholarly research: they have to give a 15-minute presentation on a topic of their own choice and submit a research essay of approx. 10 pages by the end of the term.

Bibliography:
John Dryden: Essay of Dramatic Poesie
Nahum Tate: The History of King Lear
Samuel Johnson: Notes on King Lear
Charles Lamb: “On the Tragedies of Shakespeare Considered with Reference to their Fitness for Stage-Representation”
John Keats: “On Sitting Down to Read King Lear Once Again”
Sarah Siddons: “Remarks on the Character of Lady Macbeth”
Edmund Burke: from Reflections on the Revolution in France
William Wordsworth: from The Prelude (1805), Book VII, Book X
Coleridge, Hazlitt, Shelley and Byron on Hamlet
Mary Robinson: “Oberon to Titania”
Mary Lamb: “A Midsummer Night’s Dream” (from Tales from Shakespeare)