

## LITERATURE AND ADAPTATION WITH A CASE STUDY:

*KING LEAR* ON THE PAGE AND THE STAGE

Module 7. BMNAN11700A

PPKE BTK 2019 Spring

Reuss Gabriella [reuss.gabriella@btk.ppke.hu](mailto:reuss.gabriella@btk.ppke.hu)**Class:** Tuesday 10:15-11:45, 12:30-14:00 Tárogató 221**Office hours:** Tuesday 9:00-10:00, Tárogató office 040, Friday 10:15-11:00 Sophioanum 001**Goal:** an introduction to adaptation studies through witnessing the transformations of a single play**Course material** to be accessed from [my website](#)**Text of *King Lear*** to be used: <https://www.folgerdigitaltexts.org/html/Lr.html>

		Topics for discussion - 2x90 mins	Assignment for the next class
1	Feb 12	<p><b>Introduction to the course</b> Introduction to Shakespeare's <i>King Lear</i> <b>Imagine it</b> as a manga/Facebook event / rap or slam poetry / melodrama / puppet show</p> <p><b>Adaptation and Appropriation:</b> Chapters 1-2, What is Adaptation? (pp. 17-25) What is Appropriation? (pp. 26-41) from Julie Sanders's <i>Adaptation and Appropriation</i>, (Routledge, 2006)</p>	<p>→read Shakespeare's <i>King Lear</i> (1606)</p> <p>→pair work: create a kahoot / write a piece of rap/slam poetry about (your reading of) Shakespeare's <i>Lear</i></p>
2	Feb 19	<p><b>Play on stage - 17th century</b> Kahoot/slam-rap and <a href="#">the Lear-quiz</a> ☺ Finish „finding the quotes” exercise Fools and mental health: William Kemp vs Robert Armin, Tom o' Bedlam</p>	<p>→read Nahum Tate's <i>King Lear</i> (1681) - collect your 6 favourite lines</p> <p>→collect visual representations of Lear in Tate's/Garrick's or Colman's version</p>
3	Feb 26	<p><b>Play on stage - 18th century</b> Adaptations by Tate, Colman, Garrick your 6 favourite lines your visual representations Adaptations appreciated?</p>	<p>→read Reuss Gabriella, <i>Shakespeare Londonban és Pest-Budán</i> (L'Harmattan, 2017), pp. 121-150</p>
4	March 5	<p><b>Play on stage - 19th century</b> Restoration by W. C. Macready Macready's promptbook Wikipedia <i>Shakespeare Londonban és Pest-Budán</i></p>	<p>→read: the Introduction (pp. 1-4) and a half-chapter (pp. 143-152) on Peter Brook's <i>King Lear</i>, 1971 from Anthony Davies's <i>Filming Shakespeare's Plays. The Adaptations of Laurence Olivier, Orson Welles, Peter Brook, Akira Kurosawa</i>, CUP, 1988.</p>

5	March 12	<b>Play on Early Screen</b> <i>King Lear</i> directed by Peter Brook (1971) <b>Filming Shakespeare</b> - as seen in the late 1980s theatricality: pace and acting mode	→read: Alan Bennett's <i>The Madness of George III</i> (1991)
6	March 19	<b>Play within a film</b> <b>Citing Shakespeare</b> in the 1990s (before Branagh's trend setting <i>Much Ado</i> ) <i>The Madness of King George</i> (by Alan Bennett, 1994, 110 mins)	→read: <i>A Laughing Matter</i> (2002) by April de Angelis
7	March 26	<b>Play within a play:</b> April de Angelis, <i>A Laughing Matter</i> (2002) - staged reading	→read: „Shakespeare's Cinematic Offshoots” (pp. 303-323) by Tony Howard, in Russell Jackson (ed.) <i>Cambridge Companion to Shakespeare on Film</i> (CUP, 2007)
8	April 2	<b>Offshoots and derivatives:</b> <i>A Bunch of Amateurs</i> (dir. Andy Cadiff, 2008, 96mins) What happens if the audience do not recognize the source?	→read: Chapter 4 (The Pleasures of Adaptation, pp.114-130) Linda Hutcheon's <i>A Theory of Adaptation</i> , (Routledge, 2006)
9	April 9	<b>Play in TV series</b> <i>Slings and Arrows</i> (dir. Peter Wellington, 2006) Season 3 Episodes 1-2	→read: „Brush up your Shakespeare” by Kinga Földváry (pp. 47-62), in <i>Reinventing the Renaissance</i> , Brown-Lublin-McCulloch (eds.)(Palgrave Macmillan, 2013)
10	April 16	Easter break	
11	April 23	Easter break	→watch <i>Slings and Arrows</i> (dir. Peter Wellington, 2006) Season 3 Episodes 3-4-5 (3x45 mins) →read: Douglas Lanier, „Shakespearean Rhizomatics” (2017)
12	April 30	<b>Play in TV series</b> <i>Slings and Arrows</i> (dir. Peter Wellington, 2006) Season 3 Episode 6 <b>Final test</b> - Comment upon your readings	-
13	May 7	-	-
14	May 14	<b>Shakespeare, mushrooming adapted ☺</b> Grades, mutual feedback	-

**Further readings:**

- Bratton**, Jacqueline S. ed., *Plays in Performance: King Lear*. Bristol: Bristol Classical Press, 1987. *The Restoration Lear. Nahum Tate, Sex and Politics* pp. 14-20.
- Dobson**, Michael, *The Making of the National Poet. Shakespeare, Adaptation and Authorship 1660-1769*. Oxford: The Clarendon Press, 1992. *Chapter 2. Politics and Pity.* pp.62-98.
- Fischlin**, Daniel and Mark Fortier, *Adaptations of Shakespeare: A Critical Anthology of Plays from the Seventeenth Century to the Present*, Psychology Press, 2000. *General Introduction* pp.1-19.
- Sanders**, Julie, *Novel Shakespeares. twentieth century women novelists and appropriation*. Manchester UP, 2001.
- Shakespeare**, William, *King Lear*. Foakes, R. A. ed., The Arden edition, Third Series. Chapters: *Reading and Staging King Lear* pp. 3-80, *Responses and Reworkings* pp. 80-99
- Spencer**, Christopher, ed., *Five restoration Adaptations of Shakespeare*. Urbana: The University of Illinois Press, 1965. *Introduction* pp. 1-32.
- Tate**, Nahum, *King Lear* (1681). in Christopher Spencer's *Five Restoration Adaptations*
- Taylor**, Gary: *Reinventing Shakespeare. A Cultural History from the Restoration to the Present*. London: Vintage, 1991. *Introduction, Chapter 2. Restoration.* pp. 3-39.