



# SHAKESPEARE STUDY DAY

A WORKSHOP FOR A-LEVEL TEACHERS,  
HEADS OF ENGLISH DEPARTMENTS AND  
TEACHERS IN TRAINING

Saturday 5 October 2019

10:00 - 15:30

Senate House, University of London

- Explore creative approaches to Shakespeare
- Refresh your Shakespeare teaching
- Develop effective teaching strategies for A-Level Shakespeare
- Discover inspiring ways to meet the Shakespeare assessment criteria
- Discuss the most popular A-Level texts, including *King Lear*, *Hamlet*, and *Othello*
- Suitable for all teachers at any stage of their career
- Appropriate to all five English Literature exam board specifications

£25 | General admission

£20 | Teachers from maintained schools

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<http://bit.ly/bookshax5oct>



THE ENGLISH  
ASSOCIATION

## PROGRAMME

This conference will offer new and refreshing ways of teaching Shakespeare at A-Level and is intended to facilitate discussion among experienced teachers as well as offering valuable resources for teachers beginning their sixth-form teaching. Discussions will be led by Dr Pamela Bickley and Dr Jenny Stevens, co-authors of *Essential Shakespeare: The Arden Guide to Text and Interpretation* and *Shakespeare and Early Modern Drama: Text and Performance*, and Dr Sean McEvoy, author of *Shakespeare: The Basics*, *Tragedy: The Basics*, and *Hamlet: A Sourcebook*. All three have considerable experience of teaching and publishing on Shakespeare.

### **10:00 Registration**

### **10:30 Shakespeare and Genre**

Sean McEvoy and Pamela Bickley will discuss the distinctive characteristics of Shakespearean tragedy and comedy, drawing on a range of key plays. There will be opportunity for questions and participatory discussion.

### **11:30 Coffee break**

### **12:00 Using adaptations and appropriations of Shakespeare as a way into exploring interpretation**

Focusing on the most popular A-level Shakespeare plays, including the genres of comedy, romance and tragedy, Jenny Stevens will present adaptation examples from a wide range of media, offering some practical strategies for involving students with 'different interpretations' of the plays (AO5). An overview of the topic will be followed by breakout sessions covering *King Lear*, *Othello* and *Hamlet*.

## 13:00 Lunch

A sandwich lunch with soft drinks will be provided.

## 14:00

### Practical ways of approaching close reading: using drama in the classroom

Sean McEvoy will show how a discursive rehearsal of a scene can be an highly effective way of encouraging productive close reading of the text in terms of both drama and poetry. His example will be the opening lines of *Antony and Cleopatra*.

### Getting through the text

Jenny Stevens will tackle the issue of how we 'get through' a Shakespeare text in the classroom, considering in particular the value of students reading aloud, and suggesting practical ways in which this approach can be developed to meet assessment demands.

## 15:00 Plenary discussion

## 15:30 Close

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**Senate House is on the grounds of the University of London in the heart of Bloomsbury, and is easily accessed from all major stations.**

Nearest rail station: Euston

Nearest tube stop: Russell Square

Why not take advantage of this central location and explore London?

- *A Midsummer Night's Dream* is showing at Shakespeare's Globe Theatre, Southwark
- Visit the John Taylor portrait of Shakespeare at the National Portrait Gallery
- Wander around the British Museum
- Shop for a bargain just around the corner from Senate House at Skoob Books (Marchmont St.)

## ABOUT THE SPEAKERS



**Pamela Bickley** taught in the English department at Royal Holloway, University of London, and at the Godolphin and Latymer School. She is the author of *Contemporary Fiction* (CUP, 2008) and the co-author, with Jenny Stevens, of *Essential Shakespeare: The Arden Guide to Text and Interpretation* (2013) and *Shakespeare and Early Modern Drama: Text and Performance* (2016), as well as articles on modern fiction, poetry, and Shakespeare for *emagazine*.



**Sean McEvoy** was Head of English for many years at Varndean Sixth Form College in Brighton. He has published several articles on the teaching of Shakespeare and of tragedy, and is the author of *Shakespeare: The Basics*, 'Hamlet': *A Sourcebook*, *Ben Jonson, Renaissance Dramatist* and *Tragedy: The Basics*. He is a frequent contributor to *emagazine*. He is currently teaching tragedy and early modern drama at Murray Edwards College, Cambridge.



**Jenny Stevens** has taught at both secondary and undergraduate level. She is an Ofqual subject expert and combines consultancy work with A-level teaching and academic writing. Her publications include the co-authored *Essential Shakespeare* and *Shakespeare and Early Modern Drama*; the forthcoming *Studying Shakespeare Adaptation* will be the third in this Arden series. She is a regular contributor to the English and Media Centre's publications.



## £25 | General admission

The fee for the day includes:

- Morning and afternoon refreshments
- Lunch
- A pack of teaching resources for you to take away

## £20 | Teachers from maintained schools

We are pleased to offer a discounted rate for teachers from maintained schools. This ticket type includes a FREE one-year membership of the English Association for you or your school: you'll receive three issues of *The Use of English*, the longest-standing of journals for English teachers in schools and colleges, plus three issues of the *Association Newsletter* (worth up to £67!). We'll contact you when we receive your booking with the full details of this offer.

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- Lunch
- A pack of teaching resources for you to take away
- One-year free membership of the English Association for you or your school

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**Bookings will close on 27 September 2019**

**In the event of insufficient bookings by the closing date we reserve the right to cancel or postpone the conference**

FIND OUT MORE AND  
JOIN THE ASSOCIATION

<http://bit.ly/bookshax5oct>

## ABOUT THE ENGLISH ASSOCIATION

The English Association is a network of people and organisations who are passionate about English language and its literatures.

Join the Association, be part of our community and access a range of benefits!

As a member, you'll have access to resources to support your lesson-planning and help you to balance your workload with creativity and flexibility.

The English Association has a dedicated Secondary Education Committee which works to raise the profile of the English subjects in schools, disseminate information to support teachers of English, and support excellent English teaching in schools across the full age range and sectors of secondary education.

Membership of the Association includes:

- Subscription to one of our publications
- Access to all of our new and existing resources for teachers
- Access to the EA's *Newsletter* – produced three times per year, the *Newsletter* contains topical articles, news items, and interviews from across English Studies, and updates about The English Association itself and its activities
- Reduced rates for conferences and events
- The chance to join any of our networks and special interest groups
- As a member, you'll be able to apply for the Chartered Teacher of English designation in recognition of your expertise and commitment to your professional development.

## **Unity and voice**

The English Association brings together individuals with a wealth of experience, knowledge and passion for English. We foster discussion of teaching methods and respond to national issues, contributing to government and other consultations on English.

The more involvement you have, the brighter the future looks for English Studies; not only for you and your career, but for all English-related disciplines. Membership of the EA is an ideal way to become involved and to make your voice heard.

## **Networking**

We provide a forum for the discussion of practice and principles in the teaching and learning of English at all levels, and membership provides the opportunity to network with colleagues and leading practitioners. You also receive membership of your local Regional Group when you join the EA.

## **Resources**

All members have access to our curated collection of high quality teaching resources. Our publications offer a forum for sharing best practice and exploring research-informed pedagogies.

## **THE USE OF ENGLISH**

### ***Our journal for teachers of secondary English***

*Use* brings together vigorous, independent comment on theory, policy and practice with a uniquely substantial and extensive section of reviews - reviews of important books on the teaching of the subject, of literary criticism and of anthologies and editions. **Three issues per year**

### **ENGLISH**

#### ***Published by the Association since 1936***

*English* provides a forum for people who think hard and passionately about literature and who want to communicate those thoughts to a wide audience. It includes scholarly essays and reviews on all periods of literary history alongside new work by contemporary poets. **Four issues per year**

**Don't forget that the Betty Haigh Shakespeare Essay Prize is still open for submissions!**

Shakespeare study at both post-16 and degree level often involves paying close attention to screen productions and this year's Betty Haigh Shakespeare Prize encourages just such a performance approach. The competition has two options:

#### Option 1

Write a close comparative analysis of between 1200 and 1500 words, focussing on one scene from a Shakespeare tragedy and the equivalent scene in of these named film or television versions: *Hamlet* (dir. Michael Almereyda, 2000); *Othello* (dir. Oliver Parker, 1995); *King Lear* (dir. David Eyre, 2018)

#### Option 2

Write a review of between 1000 and 1200 words, crafted with a sixth-form reader in mind, exploring in what ways a Shakespeare film adaptation of your choice throws interpretive light on the source play. The chosen film must have a screenplay which was originally written in English.

**Let your students know they can submit their entry and find out more at <http://bit.ly/bhshax>  
Closing date for entries: 1 September 2019**



Founded in 1906  
Incorporated by Royal Charter  
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#### CONTACT US

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 The English Association

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