

Group Film Project

For this assignment, your objective is to create and film a short adaptation of *Measure for Measure* or *Cymbeline*. Your adaptation should:

- Address a cultural or social issue that is relevant to a contemporary audience, demonstrating how a Shakespeare adaptation can present this issue in a new light.
- Use several film and performance techniques discussed in class in order to create a precise, calculated impression on the viewer. (Frame composition, camera movement, props, lighting, music, and more.)
- Make purposeful choices about how and when to depart from the source text, making changes that line up with the cultural and creative objectives of your project.

You should aim to create a high-quality product that can be appreciated by an audience outside of our classroom. This will require time (spent on shot composition, script revision) and attention to detail (lighting, sound, blocking, performance choices). Think of this project as a creative endeavor that can change viewers' thinking about these plays and offer timely social commentary, rather than an assignment you're required to complete for a class.

Because this project will require a lot of effort and potentially a new set of skills, you will work in large groups so that you can spread out responsibilities among group members. Two groups will have 7 students; the third will have 8. In addition to a final writing assignment, you will turn in a spreadsheet or word document listing group members' roles and responsibilities throughout the project.

You are free to adapt the text in whatever form makes sense for you—you might do a missing scene (“Sassy Gay Friend”), a scene/short group of scenes, a compressed version of the entire play (“The Prince of Denmark”), or something else.

Please feel free to take advantage of my expertise and reach out to me for any support you need to make your projects better.

Length: 2½-6 minutes (a shorter project should be higher in quality)

Deadlines (all due by 10:30am):

- **11/17** Submit Project Proposal/Schedule on Canvas
- **12/7** Upload adaptation on Vimeo or YouTube | Submit Write-up on Canvas

Group Film Project Components

Project Proposal/Schedule (1 per group)

1-2 paragraphs describing your adaptation, the social/cultural issue you intend to engage with, and 3-5 film/performance choices you might make in your project. At the bottom, include a timeline of when you intend to complete different pieces of your project (script draft, script revision, filming, editing, etc).

Film Adaptation/Final Project (1 per group)

A film adaptation between 2½-6 minutes in length.

Write-up (3-4 pages; 1 per group)

A piece of writing that promotes and explains the work done in your project, using at least 2 secondary sources. This can be written in any format as long as it's audience-friendly; for example, you might create an organized handout or a mock interview/article with a few images.

Your Write-Up should engage briefly with your source text and address the performance history of the play, before giving insight into the creative choices made in your project and their connection to a larger social or cultural issue.

Additionally, please attach a separate sheet listing the different roles played by group members throughout the production process.

Learning Objectives

This project is designed to push you to develop a new skill set as you work to develop and film a high-quality project with the support of 6-7 other BC students. From a “real life” standpoint, it will give you an opportunity to practice the skills necessary to take on a new and potentially challenging task in a short period of time. From a social standpoint, this project will empower you to communicate the work we’ve done in this class to an audience outside of our classroom and the BC community.