Shakespeare in his Time
(Wednesdays, 10-12, Rm. G20, 1–19 Torrington Place)

Module Code: ENGLGS05
Parent Department: English Language and Literature

This course is a one-term, 15-credit module, run in the Spring term and assessed by a coursework essay of between 2,000 and 3,000 words. The course gives students a thorough grounding both in Shakespeare’s plays and poems and in the literary, historical, and intellectual contexts which shaped them. Each week a particular work or group of works will be explored in depth, and considered in relation to historical issues, literary sources, and comparable writings by Shakespeare’s contemporaries.

Seminar programme, Spring 2016

1)  13th January
    Critical Approaches to Shakespeare in his Time  CS

2)  20th January
    *Titus Andronicus* and Ovid  CS

3)  27th January
    Boy Actors and Female Roles: *As You Like It* and *Twelfth Night*  HH

4)  3rd February
    The Body in *Venus and Adonis* and Marlowe’s *Hero and Leander*  EL

5)  10th February
    Shakespeare and Renaissance Economics: *The Merchant of Venice*  EL

    [Reading Week]

6)  24th February
    *King Lear* and Value  RW

7)  2nd March
    Cleopatra’s Infinite Variety: *Antony and Cleopatra* and its Sources  HH

8)  9th March
    *The Sonnets*: Poetic Tradition and Intimacy  RW

9)  16th March
    Shakespeare and Magic: *The Tempest*, and Marlowe’s *Dr Faustus*  AS

10) 23rd March
    Shakespeare and Religion: *Henry VIII*  AS

Tutors
HH – Prof. Helen Hackett; EL – Dr Eric Langley; AS – Prof. Alison Shell; CS – Dr Chris Stamatakis; RW – Prof. René Weis.