

*Student Seminar - all welcome*

# Early Modern Tragic Heroines

**Université Paul-Valéry**  
**Site Saint-Charles, salle Colloques 2**  
**Friday, 3 May 2019**  
**13:30 - 15:00**



How did dramatists of the Renaissance stage early modern tragic heroines? Two classes of LCER L3, "Shakespeare: Staging the Classical Mythology of Love" and "Female Heroines in Early Modern English Tragedy", both studying William Shakespeare and John Webster, will share this seminar at the end of their semester to discuss some of the conclusions drawn from their studies. Can political agency be seen in terms of gender? Are there specific strategies of action linked to gender? How do early modern heroines challenge social hierarchy and the patriarchal society in which they are staged? How is the notion of passion specifically associated with women? How can the study of early modern heroines shed light on the tensions between heroism and victimisation? How do early modern mythological references intersect with the notion of tragic heroine?

The discussions will be led by the students after their presentations on the following topics:

Evil women? Witches in *Macbeth* (Tiffany Roussey) — Semiramis in *Titus Andronicus* (Ana Coqueiro Leite)

Amazons and gender-neutral heroines? "Unsex me": Female agency in *Macbeth* (Fabian Leutfeld) - Hippolyta in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Daniela Rakotoarimanana)

Victims of passion? *Duchess of Malfi* (Maxime Jabado) - Cleopatra in *Antony & Cleopatra* (Lucile Chenet)