

The British Family in Film:

Heavy is the Head That Wears the Crown

This course examines royal succession through acclaimed British films that explore power not as ceremony, but as moral and political crisis. We will trace the monarchy's evolution from personal rule to institutional authority, beginning with the Plantagenet struggles in *Becket* (1964)



and *The Lion in Winter* (1968). We will then examine the moral costs of kingship and the performance of national leadership through two Shakespeare adaptations: *Chimes at Midnight* (1965) and *Henry V* (1989). The course will conclude with the *Tudor rupture: A Man for All Seasons* (1966) and the consolidation of legitimacy *Elizabeth* (1998).

[The British Family in Film promo video.](#)

Your Instructor: Bernard (Butch) Epps



Bernard (Butch) Epps earned his undergraduate degree from Loyola Marymount University, graduating cum laude as an award-winning film production major. He received his MFA from the UCLA School of Film and Television's graduate Producers Program, where he specialized in story development and working with screenwriters. At UCLA, he served as academic liaison to the MFA Producers Program faculty, including studio heads, development executives, and industry professionals. Epps has taught film appreciation courses with a strong emphasis on story analysis.

Mondays, September 28 through November 2
10am PT | 11am MT | Noon CT | 1pm ET

Each live session is 90 minutes

- Monday, September 28
- Monday, October 5
- Monday, October 12
- Monday, October 19
- Monday, October 26
- Monday, November 2

To register, please contact your local Osher Institute.