

Department of English & Writing Studies

Shakespeare
English 3227E (650)
Summer 2016
(9 May 2016 - 29 July 2016)

Instructor: Dr. George Donaldson
Office and Office Hours: TBA
Email: gdonalds@uwo.ca

Prerequisites

Students are responsible for ensuring that their selection of courses is appropriate and accurately recorded and that all course prerequisites have been successfully completed, and that they are aware of any anti-requisite course(s) that they have taken. If the student does not have the prerequisites for a course, the University reserves the right to remove the student

appealed. A student will receive no adjustment to his or her fees in the event that he or she is dropped from a course failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

Course Description

This course is a comprehensive introduction to the dramatic works of one of the most influential writers and dramatists who has ever lived: William Shakespeare. Students will

- History,

Comedy, Tragedy, and Romance/Tragicomedy

dramatic career through to its conclusion. Emphasis throughout is placed on understanding and

other sources, as well as to some of the historical and political contexts in which Shakespeare operated as a dramatist. The course furthermore engages with elements of stage-craft and performance history, and also touches upon psychoanalytic, feminist, post-colonial, and some other literary-

Objectives:

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Course Materials

Required Texts:

Shakespeare, William. As You Like It.

---, Hamlet.

---, King Lear.

---, The Merchant of Venice.

--- Dream.

---, Richard II.

---, Richard III.

---, Romeo and Juliet.

---, The Taming of the Shrew.

---, Measure for Measure.

---, The Tempest

---, Twelfth Night.

Preferred Edition: The line references to the plays in the lecture notes refer to the New Folger (New York: Washington Square Press) editions of the plays, edited by Barbara A. Mowat and Paul Werstine. If you are using a different edition line numbers may be slightly different but will be similar. See bibliographical details for each text in the relevant units.

Methods of Evaluation

Paper #1 (1000 word)	Due the End of Unit 4	10%
Performance Report (1250 words)	Due the End of Unit 8	10%
Paper #2 (2500 words)	Due the End of Unit 12	25%
Quizzes (all 6 in total)		10%
Forum Participation		10%
Final Exam		35%

A student must receive a passing grade for both term work and the final examination in order to receive a passing grade for the course. This applies to all courses in all programs offered by the department. Students whose term and final exam grades average 50% or above,

Quizzes

These will be available to be taken online following the units which they cover (each quiz covers two units of the course). Each quiz will take no more than 10 minutes; they will consist of ten multiple choice questions on the plays you have read for the units in question. You may consult your readings over the course of taking a quiz. They are designed to help keep you on track with your readings – if you have done the readings, you should have little to no difficulty with them. The total cumulative grade for all of the quizzes is 10% of the final grade for the course.

Forum Participation

Each unit will be accompanied by a corresponding discussion forum which addresses your reading of the play and the lecture materials for that unit; you will be expected to contribute to these forums on a regular basis. The exact manner in which you will be graded on your contributions to these forums will be published to the course website at the beginning of the course. The total grade for your participation in the forums will consist of 10% of the final grade for the course.

Exam

The final exam for the course will be held during the exam period. The exam will be cumulative. It will consist of a section of identifications of passages from the plays, in which you will also be asked to comment on the significance of a number of those passages, a section of short essays on individual plays, and a section wherein you will choose three plays from the readings and compare and contrast them on an assigned topic. More specific information about the exam will be posted to the course website as we approach the end of the course and the exam period. The final exam is worth 35% of the final grade for the course.

Late Policy

All written assignments are due no later than 11:55 p.m. on the date in question; any assignment received after that time will be marked late, and will be deducted 5% per business and week-end day. No written assignment will be allowed to be submitted later than one week after the original due date for the assignment. Late assignments will receive a grade but no comments.

Timetable:

(9th-13th. May)

Unit Two: Early Comedy: The Taming of the Shrew Quiz #1 (16th.-20th. May)

Unit Three: Early Tragedy: Romeo and Juliet 23rd.-27th. May)

Accommodation