

Course Syllabus *Shakespeare*

Course Information

Discipline and number: LIT 3320 Section: 501
Term: Fall 2007
Day: R Time: 7:00 – 9:45 pm
Course Title: Shakespeare

Professor Contact Information

Dr. Nadine D. Pederson
ndpederson@utdallas.edu
Mail Station JO 31
Office telephone: 972-883-2168
Office location: JO 5.708
Office hours: Wednesdays, 5:00-6:00 pm
Thursdays, 4:30-5:30 pm
(and by appointment)

Course Pre-requisites, Co-requisites, and/or Other Restrictions

Prerequisite: Three hours of lower-division literature or HUMA 1301.

Course Description

This course will take advantage of the 2007 edition of Shakespeare's works commissioned by the Royal Shakespeare Company. The new edition provides an exciting approach to the texts that combines scholarly and artistic interpretations to the playtexts; our course will do the same. [<http://www.rscshakespeare.co.uk/about.html>] We will match major themes and texts, including Shakespeare's place in theatre history (*Comedy of Errors*); the early textual history of the plays (*The Tempest* and Early English Books Online); the professional theatrical context of Early Modern London (*Twelfth Night*); theatrical productions from 1660 – present (film: *Preparing to Perform Shakespeare/RSC*); the social context of Early Modern England (*Measure for Measure*); Shakespeare and history (*Henry V*; *King Lear*); adaptations (film: *Looking for Richard*; text: *Hamlet*); and Shakespeare criticism. Students will write two short papers during the semester; final projects will be inspired by the RSC edition/website, and may include performances based on early versions of the plays, an in-depth paper on one of the topics covered in class, or some other form of scholarly and/or artistic production. Full participation is required to pass this course.

Student Learning Objectives/Outcomes

- Students will analyze seven playtexts by Shakespeare and discuss them in the context of major themes and issues in Shakespeare studies.
- Students will discuss and write about scholarship on Shakespeare from an interdisciplinary perspective and the impact of that scholarship on other areas of literary studies.
- Students will create an original project that demonstrates their engagement with the most recent edition of Shakespeare's work.

Required Textbooks and Materials

Margreta de Grazia and Stanley Wells, eds. *The Cambridge Companion to Shakespeare*. Cambridge University Press, 2001. ISBN-13: 9780521658812

William Shakespeare Complete Works, ed. Jonathan Bate and Eric Rasmussen. Modern Library: 2007. ISBN-13: 978-0679642954

Recent articles, reserve material, films, and online readings [note: all films listed on the academic calendar are considered REQUIRED VIEWING].

Suggested Course Materials

Oxford Reference Online Premium – available in the UTD library's e-text collection.

Assignments & Academic Calendar

Weekly assignment: post discussion questions on readings to the Discussion Board on WebCT by 6:00 pm (August 23 – November 1)

August 16: Course Introduction

Overview and Introduction to the RSC Edition:

<http://www.rscshakespeare.co.uk/about.html>
<http://www.rscshakespeare.co.uk/language.html>
<http://www.rscshakespeare.co.uk/meet.html>
<http://palgrave.typepad.com/rsc/>

August 23: Shakespeare's Place in Theatre History

Assignment: send Dr. Pederson an e-mail through WebCT or UTD e-mail
[First questions posted to WebCT]

Companion, chapter 1

RSC, *Comedy of Errors* + introduction [pp. 215-54] and pp. vii-viii "Preface"; ix-li of the
"General Introduction"; lix-lx "User's Guide"

[Last Day for Late Registration or to Add a Course]

August 30: Early Textual History of the Plays, Part I

Companion, chapters 2, 3, and 4

RSC, pp. lxi-lxiv “Preliminary Pages of the First Folio”

<http://www.rscshakespeare.co.uk/first.html>

In class: Reading Early Modern Documents workshop [handout distributed]

[August 31 (Friday): Census Day; Last Day to Drop without a “W”]

[September 3 (Monday): University closed]

[September 4 (Tuesday): “Signature required” withdrawal period begins]

September 6: Early Textual History of the Plays, Part II

[Paper I Handout distributed]

EEBO Reading [posted on WebCT]

RSC, *The Tempest* + introduction [pp. 1-51]

September 13: Professional Theatrical Context of Early Modern London

Companion, chapters 6, 7, and 8

RSC, *Twelfth Night* + introduction [pp. 645-97]

[WP/WF Period Begins]

September 20: Theatrical Productions from 1660-Present

Companion, chapters 12, 13, and 15

In-class screening: “Preparing to Perform Shakespeare” (RSC)

Due @ 6:00 pm: Paper I (submitted electronically to Turnitin.com)

September 27: Social Context of Early Modern England

Companion, chapters 9 and 10

RSC, *Measure for Measure* + introduction [pp.155-214]

[October 3 (Wednesday): Mid-term grades available to students]

October 4: Shakespeare and History, Part I

Companion, chapter 11

RSC, *Henry V* + introduction [pp. 1026-97]

October 11: Shakespeare and History, Part II

RSC, *King Lear* + introduction + quarto pages [pp. 2004-80]

[WP/WF Period Ends]

October 18: Adaptations, Part I

[Paper II Handout (Scholarly Articles) distributed]

Companion, chapters 14 and 16

In-class screening: “Looking for Richard”

October 25: Adaptations, Part II

Comparison of Hamlet versions: <http://www.bl.uk/treasures/shakespeare/homepage.html>

RSC, *Hamlet* + introduction + quarto pages [pp. 1918-2003]

November 1: Shakespeare Criticism

[Last questions posted to WebCT]

Scholarly Article Discussion

Companion, chapters 17 and 18

Due @ 6:00 pm: Paper II (submitted electronically to Turnitin.com)

November 8: Criticism Meets Adaptation

In-class screening: Robert Wilson's *Hamlet*

In-class workshop I (re: final projects)

November 12 (Monday): **Due @ noon: Final Project Proposals**

(submitted via e-mail to Dr. Pederson)

November 15: Rehearsal

In-class workshop II (re: final projects)

[Last day of class]

[November 22 – 24 (Thursday – Saturday): University Closed]

November 29: Final Project Presentations

[December 7 (Friday): Final grades available to students]

Grading Policy

15% Paper I

15% Paper II

20% Final Project

50% Participation

Grade changes

All grades are final, unless you sincerely believe an error has been made. In that case, please submit a written explanation (no longer than one page) to me within one week of receiving your grade for a particular exam or assignment, detailing the reasons why you think an error or misjudgment has been made. I will reevaluate your work, but bear in mind that I may find additional problems I had not noticed on my first reading. It is therefore possible that you may end up with a lower grade rather than a higher one. I highly advocate a 48-hour time period to consider your options before challenging your grade. If, after this procedure has been followed, you still believe your grade is inaccurate, you have the right to appeal through university channels.

Course & Instructor Policies

ALL ASSIGNMENTS MUST BE COMPLETED IN ORDER TO PASS THIS CLASS.

Paper I and II, as well as any written material for the Final Project, will be submitted through Turnitin.com (instructions to follow). Handouts will be distributed regarding the two papers on the dates marked in the syllabus. Final Projects proposals are due on the date marked in the syllabus, and *must be approved* by me.

Missed assignments

If you are ill or have a family emergency, please either e-mail me or leave a message on my office phone before the assignment is due. I do not look favorably on make-up work, and it is my policy not to accept any late assignments unless the student found himself/herself in an unavoidable situation for which there is written documentation. There are few situations that meet that kind of criteria. Don't risk it.

Participation

I am primarily concerned with your contribution to the scholarly atmosphere of the course. Examples of things that contribute to that atmosphere include coming prepared to class, asking questions that help to clarify the assigned readings, making comments that link the readings to outside material (perhaps from other courses), and especially contributing to the discussions of readings.

Examples of things that detract from that atmosphere include arriving late or leaving early, cell phone use, distracting behavior during lectures, speaking unkindly or disrespectfully to or about anyone in the classroom, or expecting special treatment.

Every week, students will be required to post three questions on assigned readings to the discussion board of WebCT no later than 6:00 pm on the day we are scheduled to discuss them.

Your participation grade will consist of:

- discussion questions posted on WebCT [10 out of 50 points]
- consistent preparation for and engagement in class discussions (this includes attendance; you cannot participate if you are not in class) [40 out of 50 points]

Field Trip Policies

Off-campus Instruction and Course Activities

Off-campus, out-of-state, and foreign instruction and activities are subject to state law and University policies and procedures regarding travel and risk-related activities. Information regarding these rules and regulations may be found at the website address http://www.utdallas.edu/BusinessAffairs/Travel_Risk_Activities.htm. Additional information is available from the office of the school dean. Below is a description of any travel and/or risk-related activity associated with this course.

Student Conduct & Discipline

The University of Texas System and The University of Texas at Dallas have rules and regulations for the orderly and efficient conduct of their business. It is the responsibility of each student and each student organization to be knowledgeable about the rules and regulations which govern student conduct and activities. General information on student conduct and discipline is contained in the UTD publication, *A to Z Guide*, which is provided to all registered students each academic year.

The University of Texas at Dallas administers student discipline within the procedures of recognized and established due process. Procedures are defined and described in the *Rules and Regulations, Board of Regents, The University of Texas System, Part I, Chapter VI, Section 3*, and in Title V, Rules on Student Services and Activities of the university's *Handbook of Operating Procedures*. Copies of these rules and regulations are available to students in the Office of the Dean of Students, where staff members are available to assist students in interpreting the rules and regulations (SU 1.602, 972/883-6391).

A student at the university neither loses the rights nor escapes the responsibilities of citizenship. He or she is expected to obey federal, state, and local laws as well as the Regents' Rules, university regulations, and administrative rules. Students are subject to discipline for violating the standards of conduct whether such conduct takes place on or off campus, or whether civil or criminal penalties are also imposed for such conduct.

Academic Integrity

The faculty expects from its students a high level of responsibility and academic honesty. Because the value of an academic degree depends upon the absolute integrity of the work done by the student for that degree, it is imperative that a student demonstrate a high standard of individual honor in his or her scholastic work.

Scholastic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, statements, acts or omissions related to applications for enrollment or the award of a degree, and/or the submission as one's own work or material that is not one's own. As a general rule, scholastic dishonesty involves one of the following acts: cheating, plagiarism, collusion and/or falsifying academic records. Students suspected of academic dishonesty are subject to disciplinary proceedings.

Plagiarism, especially from the web, from portions of papers for other classes, and from any other source is unacceptable and will be dealt with under the university's policy on plagiarism (see general catalog for details). This course will use the resources of turnitin.com, which searches the web for possible plagiarism and is over 90% effective.

Email Use

The University of Texas at Dallas recognizes the value and efficiency of communication between faculty/staff and students through electronic mail. At the same time, email raises some issues concerning security and the identity of each individual in an email exchange. The university encourages all official student email correspondence be sent only to a student's U.T. Dallas email address and that faculty and staff consider email from students official only if it originates from a UTD student account. This allows the university to maintain a high degree of confidence in the identity of all individual corresponding and the security of the transmitted information. UTD furnishes each student with a free email account that is to be used in all communication with university personnel. The Department of Information Resources at U.T. Dallas provides a method for students to have their U.T. Dallas mail forwarded to other accounts.

Withdrawal from Class

The administration of this institution has set deadlines for withdrawal of any college-level courses. These dates and times are published in that semester's course catalog. Administration procedures must be followed. It is the student's responsibility to handle withdrawal requirements from any class. In other words, I cannot drop or withdraw any student. You must do the proper paperwork to ensure that you will not receive a final grade of "F" in a course if you choose not to attend the class once you are enrolled.

Student Grievance Procedures

Procedures for student grievances are found in Title V, Rules on Student Services and Activities, of the university's *Handbook of Operating Procedures*.

In attempting to resolve any student grievance regarding grades, evaluations, or other fulfillments of academic responsibility, it is the obligation of the student first to make a serious effort to resolve the matter with the instructor, supervisor, administrator, or committee with whom the grievance originates (hereafter called "the respondent"). Individual faculty members retain primary responsibility for assigning grades and evaluations. If the matter cannot be resolved at that level, the grievance must be submitted in writing to the respondent with a copy of the respondent's School Dean. If the matter is not resolved by the written response provided by the respondent, the student may submit a written appeal to the School Dean. If the grievance is not resolved by the School Dean's decision, the student may make a written appeal to the Dean of Graduate or Undergraduate Education, and the dean will appoint and convene an Academic Appeals Panel. The decision of the Academic Appeals Panel is final. The results of the academic appeals process will be distributed to all involved parties.

Copies of these rules and regulations are available to students in the Office of the Dean of Students, where staff members are available to assist students in interpreting the rules and regulations.

Incomplete Grade Policy

As per university policy, incomplete grades will be granted only for work unavoidably missed at the semester's end and only if 70% of the course work has been completed. An incomplete grade must be resolved within eight (8) weeks from the first day of the subsequent long semester. If the required work to complete the course and to remove the incomplete grade is not submitted by the specified deadline, the incomplete grade is changed automatically to a grade of **F**.

Disability Services

The goal of Disability Services is to provide students with disabilities educational opportunities equal to those of their non-disabled peers. Disability Services is located in room 1.610 in the Student Union. Office hours are Monday and Thursday, 8:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.; Tuesday and Wednesday, 8:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.; and Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

The contact information for the Office of Disability Services is:

The University of Texas at Dallas, SU 22

PO Box 830688

Richardson, Texas 75083-0688

(972) 883-2098 (voice or TTY)

Essentially, the law requires that colleges and universities make those reasonable adjustments necessary to eliminate discrimination on the basis of disability. For example, it may be necessary to remove classroom prohibitions against tape recorders or animals (in the case of dog guides) for

students who are blind. Occasionally an assignment requirement may be substituted (for example, a research paper versus an oral presentation for a student who is hearing impaired). Classes enrolled students with mobility impairments may have to be rescheduled in accessible facilities. The college or university may need to provide special services such as registration, note-taking, or mobility assistance.

It is the student's responsibility to notify his or her professors of the need for such an accommodation. Disability Services provides students with letters to present to faculty members to verify that the student has a disability and needs accommodations. Individuals requiring special accommodation should contact the professor after class or during office hours.

Religious Holy Days

The University of Texas at Dallas will excuse a student from class or other required activities for the travel to and observance of a religious holy day for a religion whose places of worship are exempt from property tax under Section 11.20, Tax Code, Texas Code Annotated.

The student is encouraged to notify the instructor or activity sponsor as soon as possible regarding the absence, preferably in advance of the assignment. The student, so excused, will be allowed to take the exam or complete the assignment within a reasonable time after the absence: a period equal to the length of the absence, up to a maximum of one week. A student who notifies the instructor and completes any missed exam or assignment may not be penalized for the absence. A student who fails to complete the exam or assignment within the prescribed period may receive a failing grade for that exam or assignment.

If a student or an instructor disagrees about the nature of the absence [i.e., for the purpose of observing a religious holy day] or if there is similar disagreement about whether the student has been given a reasonable time to complete any missed assignments or examinations, either the student or the instructor may request a ruling from the chief executive officer of the institution, or his or her designee. The chief executive officer or designee must take into account the legislative intent of TEC 51.911(b), and the student and instructor will abide by the decision of the chief executive officer or designee.

These descriptions and timelines are subject to change at the discretion of the Professor.