

INTRODUCTION TO SHAKESPEARE

English 247
Fall 2009
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Office Hours:
MW 11:30-1:00;
Th 11:15-1:00;
and by appointment

English Department URL: <http://www.english.uwosh.edu>

REQUIRED TEXTS: *The Necessary Shakespeare*, ed. David Bevington, 3rd edition (2009)
Essays from Polk Library e-reserve

REQUIREMENTS: You are expected to attend regularly and do the assigned reading, to participate in class discussions, and to hand in responses to questions and other kinds of informal writing; to write two examinations; to participate in a final presentation; and to write two short essays (double spaced typing is required; research is forbidden).

GOALS: Along with developing your critical thinking and writing skills, the primary purpose of this course is to introduce you to Shakespearean drama so you may find it enjoyable as well as challenging and stimulating. Engaging with major plays in several genres and considering various modern approaches to them, we will examine the social, political, and literary contexts of drama and the roles of drama in Elizabethan England.

GRADING:	Essay #1 (500 words)	15%
	Exam #1	15%
	Essay #2 (1,000 words)	20%
	Exam #2	20%
	Presentation	10%
	Informal writing	10%
	Participation	10%

GRADING SCALE: A+=97-100; A=94-96; A-=90-93; B+=87-89; B=84-86; B-=80-83;
C+=77-79; C=74-76; C-=70-73; D+=67-69; D=64-66; D-=60-63; F=<60

LATE WORK: You may not turn in responses or any informal writing late, through a classmate, or via e-mail. Late essays, which are also not accepted via email, will be penalized one-half of a letter grade (five points) for each weekday they are late.

PLAGIARISM: If your paper clearly reflects the organization, phrasing, or content of another's work—student or professional writer—without proper identification of the source, the paper is considered plagiarized. Plagiarism is a serious offense, punished by penalties ranging up to dismissal from the course. I will enforce the university's policy on plagiarism as stated in the *Student Discipline Code*, which you should consult for a full explanation.

DATE READING/WRITING ASSIGNMENTS DUE

Th	10 September	McCormick, "Reading Texts" (Polk Library e-reserve)
Tu	15	McDonald, "What is Your Text?" (e-reserve) and "Going to a Play, circa 1595" (e-reserve); consult map of London in <i>Necessary Shakespeare</i> (3 rd edition: A-58; 2 nd edition: A-50)
Th	17	Widdicombe, "How To Read Shakespeare" (e-reserve); <i>A Midsummer Night's Dream</i> 1; Headnote ¶1-2; McDonald, "Comedy" (e-reserve)
Tu	22	<i>A Midsummer Night's Dream</i> 2-3; <i>Necessary Shakespeare</i> , "London Theaters and Dramatic Companies" (3 rd edition: xlvi-liii; 2 nd edition: xlii-li)
Th	24	<i>A Midsummer Night's Dream</i> 4-5; <i>Necessary Shakespeare</i> , "Shakespeare's Life and Work" (3 rd edition: liii-lxi; 2 nd edition: li-lvii)
Tu	29	<i>Hamlet</i> 1; Headnote ¶1-2; McDonald, "Tragedy" (e-reserve)
Th	1 October	<i>Hamlet</i> 2-3
Tu	6	<i>Hamlet</i> 4-5
Th	8	<i>King Lear</i> 1; Headnote ¶1-2
Tu	13	<i>King Lear</i> 2-3
Th	15	<i>King Lear</i> 4-5
Tu	20	ROUGH DRAFT WORKSHOP FOR ESSAY #1
Th	*22	ESSAY #1 DUE; EXAM #1: Shakespearean contexts (life, stage, and era), literary concepts, <i>A Midsummer Night's Dream</i> , <i>Hamlet</i> , and <i>King Lear</i>

Tu 27 *The Winter's Tale* 1; Headnote ¶1-2; McDonald, "Romance" (e-reserve)

Th 29 *The Winter's Tale* 2-3

Tu 3 November *The Winter's Tale* 4-5

Th 5 *The Tempest* 1; Headnote ¶1

Tu 10 *The Tempest* 2-3

Th 12 *The Tempest* 4-5

Tu 17 *Measure for Measure* 1; Headnote ¶1; McDonald, "Mixed Modes" (e-reserve)

Th 19 *Measure for Measure* 2-3

Tu 24 *Measure for Measure* 4-5

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Tu 1 December BBC video of *Measure for Measure*

Th 3 BBC video of *Measure for Measure*

Tu 8 ROUGH DRAFT WORKSHOP FOR ESSAY #2

Th *10 **ESSAY #2 DUE**; 2-3 Presentations

Tu 15 2-3 Presentations

Th 17 **EXAM #2:** *The Winter's Tale*, *The Tempest*, *Measure for Measure*, BBC video of *Measure for Measure*, literary concepts, and presentations