Dr. Kathleen Horton
265 PLC; 541-346-1311
hortonk@uoregon.edu
Of. Hrs.: MWF 10:00 – 11:00 a.m.
(and by appointment)

Shakespeare
CRN 12632/ENG 207
MWF 9:00-9:50, 260 Condon
WA: Jenny Linstead
jennyl@uoregon.edu

Syllabus
Be not afeared: the isle is full of noises,
Sounds and sweet airs that give delight and hurt not.

Course Description: This introductory course will cover four of Shakespeare's earlier plays – three tragedies and a comedy. After orienting ourselves to Shakespeare's language and culture, our primary focus will be on close reading and analysis of the plays, paying careful attention to the details of language and textual evidence to support our various interpretations. We will also consider the work of performance in embodying meaning.

Texts: Please purchase the inexpensive Folger paperback editions, which are required for this class and available in the UO bookstore.

Titus Andronicus
Julius Caesar
The Merchant of Venice
Hamlet

Grading and Requirements:

APP 20%
Quizzes 20%
Midterm 20%
Essay 20%
Scholarship Review 20%

Policies and Procedures:

Meetings: I am happy to meet with you during the term to discuss your ideas, writing, concerns, questions, progress, or grades. Please come to my office hours or make an appointment if you can't make the office hours. Brief answers to simple questions can be given just before or after class, but meaningful discussions on the fly are not possible, so please come see me.

Plagiarism: Plagiarism is taking someone else's ideas or writings and presenting them as your own without attributing the idea to its source. All work you do in this class must be your own work, based on your original thinking, and done exclusively for this class. Scholarship reviews must be properly documented according to MLA methodology. Plagiarism or academic dishonesty of any kind will result in your failing the class and a report being sent to the Office of Student Conduct. See me if you do not understand what plagiarism means and please read the provisions in the code of student conduct regarding this: <http://darkwing.uoregon.edu/~conduct/code.htm>
AP&P (attendance, preparation, and participation): This significant portion of your grade assumes your rigorous intellectual engagement. It includes your presence at each class and on-time arrival, your possession of the Folger paperback edition of the play at each class and in use during discussion, your preparation for each class by having read the assigned work, your willingness to share your ideas during discussion, and your respectful responses to the ideas of others. **This grade also includes single-minded focus on the work of the class, which requires you to turn off and put away all electronics – music devices, earphones, computers, cell phones, etc. – before class begins and refrain from texting or checking for messages or leaving the room while class is in session to do so.** Please take notes by hand and enter them into your computer later. (This method will actually help reinforce your memory of the material in preparation for quizzes and the midterm.) If you have a documented disability that requires use of electronic devices, please see me during my office hours to discuss.

**Quizzes:** You have to read Shakespeare slowly and attentively more than once for understanding. To encourage you in this practice of close and careful reading, there will be one or more quiz or response paper – announced or unannounced – per play. These may ask you to summarize actions, explain characters, remember textual details, and/or analyze meanings. Quizzes may also include information I bring up in lectures or discussions.

**Midterm:** The Midterm Exam will cover the plays read up to that point as well as any lecture material presented in class. It will include objective questions and analysis. The Midterm Oral Interpretation will require you to memorize a minimum of ten lines and to present your dramatic interpretation of those lines to the class.

**Essay:** The ability to think critically and express your critical thinking in compelling written form is an essential component of this class. The essay should respond to a specific question at issue and the final draft of the essay which you will turn in for a grade should be a revision of one or more earlier drafts, all of which I would like attached at the back of your final revision. Drafting is necessary to develop your ideas and perfect your line of reasoning. Specific guidelines for the essay will be presented during the term. You may choose the play to discuss in your essay, but remember to observe the essay due date for that particular play.

**Scholarship Review:** This assignment requires you to find a recent scholarly essay discussing *Hamlet* and write an essay explaining the scholar’s argument and your response to it based on your own analysis and interpretation of *Hamlet*. During week ten you will explain the scholar’s argument and your response to the class. Guidelines will be discussed after midterm.

**Writing Associates:** We are fortunate to have a Writing Associate attached to our class – Jenny Linstead. Her job is to assist you with your writing by meeting with you and discussing your ideas, interpretation, thesis, and line of reasoning. Please take advantage of her help, but don’t wait until the last minute and don’t email your paper to her expecting her to “fix” it for you. That is your job. Her job is to assist you in seeing what you are doing well and discerning what you could do better.
Tentative Schedule:

1a* Shakespeare's English
1b Introduction
1c Introduction; in-class writing
2a *Titus Andronicus*, Act 1; quiz
2b TA, Act 2
2c TA, Act 3
3a TA, Acts 4-5, commentary
3b *Julius Caesar*, Act 1; quiz
3c JC, Act 2; *Titus Andronicus* Essay due with rough draft(s) attached
4a JC, Act 3
4b JC, Act 4
4c JC, Act 5; commentary
5a Midterm Oral Interpretations; *Julius Caesar* Essay due with rough draft(s)
5b Midterm Oral Interpretations
5c Midterm Oral Interpretations
6a **Midterm Exam**
6b *The Merchant of Venice*, Act 1; quiz
6c MV, Act 2
7a MV, Act 3
7b MV, Act 4
7c MV, Act 5; commentary
8a *Hamlet*, Act 1; quiz; *Merchant of Venice* Essay due with rough draft(s) attached
8b *Hamlet*, Act 2
8c *Hamlet*, Act 3
9a *Hamlet*, Acts 4-5; commentary
9b Independent Research day for Scholarship Review – no class session
9c Thanksgiving Holiday – no class session
10a Scholarship Review Oral Reports; *Hamlet* essay due w/ rough draft(s) attached
10b Scholarship Review Oral Reports
10c Scholarship Review Oral Reports

**Scholarship Review Essay due** on Monday of Finals week at noon in my office – 265 PLC. You may put it under my office door anytime before that, but please make sure it is the right office door – 265 PLC. This essay is the final assignment for the class; there will be no final exam.

*(1 = Week One, 2 = Week Two, etc.; a = Monday, b = Wednesday, c = Friday; The work listed for each day is what you will have read and be prepared to discuss on that day.)*