English 208: Shakespeare II (Later Plays)

Required Text
I’ve ordered volume 2 of the Norton Shakespeare, as we’ll be reading only late Shakespeare for this course. However, if you already own the complete Norton you may use that. Used copies are fine, as are first editions, which may be found for cheaper than the text I’ve reserved. However, you must use the Norton Shakespeare, as we’ll be discussing the editorial apparatus and introductory material.

Online Resources
Oxford English Dictionary
Available online for free through the library home page. The OED is a historical dictionary, which means that it can help us to understand what Shakespeare’s words meant when he used them. You will use this dictionary for your Close Reading project, but I also hope you use it periodically while reading the plays to enrich your understanding of the language.

Shakespeare Concordance
Visit http://www.opensourceshakespeare.org/concordance/ to search Shakespeare’s text for key terms.

Course Requirements
In-class work 10%
Close Reading 15%
Midterm Exam 20%
Prospectus 5%
Formal Essay 25%
Final Exam 25%

Assignment Descriptions
In-class work: we will periodically be doing in-class writing and group exercises, paraphrasing Shakespeare’s language and critically considering important passages. You will hand these in to me at the end of the class in which they were written.

Close Reading: using the OED and the Shakespeare concordance, you will compose a brief, 3 page essay on a passage from Macbeth, attending especially to the word choice and syntax of the passage. Guidelines will be posted on BB.

Midterm: this exam will be in the form of long identifications, in which you are given passages from the texts we’ve read that you must contextualize and comment upon. You will be expected to situate
each passage in the plot of the play from which it is taken, but more important is your ability to critically comment upon it in terms of the larger themes of the work, and Shakespeare’s Elizabethan background, we have discussed in class.

Prospectus: the prospectus is a proposal for the Formal Essay you must write. In it, you will be expected to sketch the argument of the larger paper, as you might in an introduction. Notably, I will expect you to have read two scholarly articles about the play you are addressing, and the Prospectus must situate your work in response to these other authors. Further details will be posted on BB.

Formal Essay: you may compose this 5-7 page paper on any of the first three plays (or even the Tempest—if you’re in love with it, and are already familiar with it, see me individually). I will post suggested topics on BB, though you may create your own in consultation with me.

Final: the final will be in the same format as the midterm, but will test all the plays and will include an essay portion.

Policies and Procedures
Attendance: More than two absences will result in the lowering of your final course grade by 1/3 of a grade (from an A to A- or B- to C+, for instance) per absence. If documented, extraordinary circumstances arise, please let me know as early as possible.

Late Work: All work for this class is due to me at the beginning of class or at the time specified on the syllabus, as a paper copy. Late papers will be marked down one full grade for each day that they are late. If you are unable to attend class the day an assignment is due you may email me the assignment as a “placeholder,” but you must get me a paper copy by the next class.

Electronic Submissions: I do not accept emailed papers, except in the specific circumstances described under “Late Work.”

Formatting: All assignments for this course must be typed, double-spaced, and have standard font and size (Arial or Times New Roman, 12 point) and one-inch margins all around (check your word processor’s defaults!).

Technology in Class: You are welcome to use your laptops to take notes in class, but please be sensitive to the needs of those around you. Games and internet searches are disruptive. Do not use your computer for anything other than note taking. If I see other activities happening, I will revoke this privilege.

Disability Resources: If there are aspects of the instruction or design of this course that result in barriers to your participation, please notify me as soon as possible. You are also welcome to contact Disability Services in 164 Oregon Hall at 346-1155 or disabsrv@uoregon.edu

Academic Honesty: All work submitted in this course must be your own and produced exclusively for this course. The use of sources (ideas, quotations, paraphrases) must be properly acknowledged and documented. For the consequences of academic dishonesty, refer to the Schedule of Classes. Violations will be taken seriously and are noted on student disciplinary records; if academic dishonesty is clearly established, you will receive an F for the course. Please use MLA citation practices when citing work for this course. If you are in doubt regarding the requirements, please consult with me before you complete any requirement of the course.
## Schedule

**Week 1**
- **T 1/10** Introduction
- **Th 1/12** Macbeth, Introduction, Act 1

**Week 2**
- **T 1/17** Macbeth, Acts 2-3
- **Th 1/19** Macbeth Acts 4-5

**Week 3**
- **T 1/24** Macbeth performed
- **Th 1/26** Measure for Measure, Introduction, Act 1

**Week 4**
- **T 1/31** Measure for Measure, Acts 2-3
- **Th 2/2** Measure for Measure, Acts 4-5

**Week 5**
- **T 2/7** Shakespeare’s World 2-30
- **Th 2/9** MIDTERM

**Week 6**
- **T 2/14** King Lear, Introduction, Act 1
- **Th 2/16** King Lear, Acts 2-3

**Week 7**
- **T 2/21** King Lear, Act 4
- **T 2/23** King Lear, Act 5

**Week 8**
- **2/28** Lear performed
- **3/1** The Tempest, Introduction, Act 1

**Week 9**
- **3/6** The Tempest, Acts 2-3
- **3/8** The Tempest, Act 4

**Week 10**
- **3/13** The Tempest, Act 5
- **3/15** Final Review

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**3/20, 8:00** FINAL EXAM