ENGLISH 208  WINTER 2012

SHAKESPEARE

Instructor: Danna Voth
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Office: PLC 241
Phone: 541 346-0531
Office Hours: MW 8:00am-8:45am and MW 10:00am-10:45am, and by appointment

Course Description: This class will read four of Shakespeare’s later plays, exploring the aesthetic and ethical aspects of the tensions between individuality and categories of gender, class, and race. We will examine characters as both “types” of social institutions and as individuals. We will consider their choices, motives, thoughts, words, and actions in terms of their unique personalities as well as their positions in Elizabethan society and ideology. We will discuss the Elizabethan theater, the genre of drama, and the use of language in the plays that creates the characters and their situations. Students will complete daily readings and writing assignments, a paraphrase exercise, a concordance exercise, two papers, a performance assignment, a midterm, and a final exam.


Course Requirements:
20%  Reading Responses
5%   Paraphrase Exercise
5%   Concordance Exercise
15%  First Paper
15%  Midterm Exam
10%  Performance Assignment
15%  Second Paper
15%  Final Exam

Assignments: All assignments are due by 7:00am on the date given on the schedule. The reading responses will follow the prompts on Blackboard and be due on Blackboard by 7:00am as given in the schedule. All other written assignments are due as given in the schedule and should be posted on Safe Assign by 7:00am AND given in hard copy to me at the beginning of class that day. See Blackboard for specific prompts. The first paper (3-4 pages) will utilize work done in the reading responses and the paraphrase and concordance assignments to analyze a theme from Timon of Athens. The performance assignment will be a small group performance of 4 minutes of an assigned Play and Act, accompanied with a written explanation of dramatic choices. The second paper (3-4 pages) will analyze a theme exemplified in one of the other 3 plays.

Exams: The midterm exam will cover the material from weeks 1-5. The final exam will be cumulative.
Format: Assignments must be typed in 12-pt. Times New Roman font, double spaced, with 1-inch margins all around. Please use MLA citation conventions—see the MLA guide posted on Blackboard. Also please include your name, the class, the date, and my name single-spaced on the upper left-hand corner of the first page. Do not attach a separate title page. Please number and staple your pages together. I encourage you to print on both sides of the page.

Attendance and Participation: Attendance in this class is essential to your success. You may miss three classes without penalty. After the three classes have been missed any subsequent absence will result in the lowering of your final grade by 1/3, for example, from an A to an A-. If you must miss class, it is your responsibility to arrange to get notes from a classmate; do not email me to ask what you have missed. You may come to office hours to catch up. Please respect everyone’s right to a good learning environment: text-messaging, phone calls, non-group activity conversations, and other distractions will result in your being asked to leave the room and counted absent for the day. Studious and attentive participation—entering into the discussion and asking questions, and working productively in group activities—may earn you a rounding up of your grade. PLEASE BRING YOUR TEXT TO CLASS. Not having your text (the book or a photocopy of it) in class can earn you an unexcused absence for the day.

Late Work: All assignments are due when scheduled, whether you attend class or not. Late assignments will be docked one full letter grade for each day late. If you need extra time for an assignment, you should arrange that with me in advance.

Email and Class Notifications: Please check your email regularly. If there is a weather issue and I need to cancel class, I will email everyone in class by 7:00am that day. I will check my email once a day Monday through Friday and will attempt to answer you within 24 hours.

Grades: A final grade of C or better in the course is required for English major credit. No incompletes will be granted except in case of documented emergency.

Accommodations: Appropriate accommodations will be provided for students with documented disabilities. If you have a documented disability and require accommodation, you must meet with me by Friday, January 13. I assume you will also meet with the Office of Disabilities Services, which will help provide needed accommodations.

Plagiarism: Every idea and phrase you turn in must be 100% your own work for this class or properly documented. In cases where Academic Dishonesty is established, you will receive an F for the final course grade. Please see me if you have any question about your use of sources.
## SCHEDULE OF ASSIGNMENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Reading</th>
<th>Assignments</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>M 1/9</td>
<td>Introduction to Class</td>
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<td></td>
<td>W 1/11</td>
<td>NORTON: General Introduction 1-42</td>
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<td>F 1/13</td>
<td>NORTON: General Introduction 42-78; The</td>
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<td>Shakespearean Stage</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>M 1/16</td>
<td>No Class: Martin Luther King Day</td>
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<td>W 1/18</td>
<td>The Life of Timon of Athens Act I</td>
<td>Reading Response 1</td>
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<td>F 1/20</td>
<td>The Life of Timon of Athens Act II</td>
<td>RR2; Paraphrase</td>
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<td>Assignment</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>M 1/23</td>
<td>The Life of Timon of Athens Act III</td>
<td>RR3</td>
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<td>W 1/25</td>
<td>The Life of Timon of Athens Act IV</td>
<td>RR4</td>
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<td>F 1/27</td>
<td>The Life of Timon of Athens Act V</td>
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<td>M 1/30</td>
<td>The Tragedy of Macbeth Act I</td>
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<td>W 2/1</td>
<td>The Tragedy of Macbeth Act II</td>
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<td>F 2/3</td>
<td>The Tragedy of Macbeth Act III</td>
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<td>The Tragedy of Macbeth Act IV</td>
<td>RR9</td>
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<td>W 2/8</td>
<td>The Tragedy of Macbeth Act V</td>
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<td>F 2/10</td>
<td>Prepare for Midterm</td>
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<td>M 2/13</td>
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<td>W 2/15</td>
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<td>Performance Assignment</td>
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<td>W 2/22</td>
<td>The Tragedy of King Lear Act I</td>
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<td>F 3/16</td>
<td>Prepare for Final Exam</td>
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