
ENGLISH 3306

SHAKESPEARE: MAJOR WORKS

FALL 2015

REQUIRED TEXT

The Complete Pelican Shakespeare

Stephen Orgel and A.R. Braunmuller, et al eds. (2002)

You need a fully annotated, one-volume edition of Shakespeare for the class. You may use any well-annotated, modern edition. For a list of acceptable editions, see: drmarkwomack.com/engl-3306/textbooks/

ATTENDANCE

You should attend all of every class. Be in class on time with your reading done and your text in hand. I don't take roll, but I don't take kindly to students who skip class or arrive late either. It is your responsibility to find out, from your classmates, what you missed when you are not in class.

ASSIGNMENTS

You will write two Essays that focus on reading Shakespeare's language closely. The Final Exam will be a Performance Project with groups of students performing five minute scenes. Assignments not submitted on time will not receive grades. I never assign extra credit or make-up work. I discuss grades only in private, and only forty-eight hours (at least) after I have returned an assignment.

QUIZZES

I will frequently give a 5 minute pop quiz on the day's reading assignment; if you miss that 5 minutes of a class, you miss that quiz. Missed quizzes cannot be made up for any reason whatsoever. When calculating your Quiz Average, I will drop your 2 lowest quiz scores.

CELL PHONES

You may not use cell phones in class. Keep your cell phone turned off and out of sight from the moment the class starts until the moment it ends. Every time I see or hear your cell phone during class, I will deduct ten points from your Final Average. (Notify me before class begins if there is an emergency situation that absolutely requires you to leave your cell phone on.)

LAPTOPS AND TABLETS

You may use your laptop or tablet computer only for taking notes, accessing the class website, or other specifically class-related work. If you use it to IM, e-mail, play games, shop, or any other such activity during class, you lose ten points from your Final Average and forfeit your right to bring the device to class for the rest of the semester.

DR. MARK WOMACK

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drmarkwomack.com/engl-3306/

Office Hours: Sat 12:00-1:00

Office: Roy Cullen 235B

Class Information

Time: Sat 9:00-12:00

Room: Agnes Arnold Hall 201

Section: #28006

Course Grade

Quiz Average 25%

Essay 1 25%

Essay 2 25%

Performance Project 25%

Numerical Values for Letter Grades

A+ 100-97

A 96-93

A- 92-90

B+ 89-87

B 86-83

B- 82-80

C+ 79-77

C 76-73

C- 72-70

D 69-60

F 59-0

COURSE DESCRIPTION

What's the big deal about Shakespeare? Why have so many people loved his plays so much for so long? I believe that we value Shakespeare so highly because he creates such extraordinarily complex, rich, and intense experiences for audiences.

In this course, we will investigate how Shakespeare's plays generate such experiences. We will spend most of our time analyzing how Shakespeare's extravagantly beautiful language works its magic on us. We'll also give lots of time to thinking about how these plays work as theatrical entertainments. We won't use the plays as excuses to talk about other things, like social injustices or the meaning of life.

Blackboard Learn

You will submit your Essays online through Blackboard Learn: <http://www.uh.edu/blackboard/>

Class Website

You can find all course materials — including the syllabus, assignment sheets, handouts, and so forth — on the class website: drmarkwomack.com/engl-3306.

SCHEDULE OF READINGS AND ASSIGNMENTS

WEEK	DATE	TOPICS & ASSIGNMENTS
ONE	8/29	Review of policies, syllabus, and assignments.
TWO	9/5	<i>The Taming of the Shrew</i>
THREE	9/12	<i>A Midsummer Night's Dream</i> , 1.1–3.1
FOUR	9/19	<i>A Midsummer Night's Dream</i> , 3.2–5.1
FIVE	9/26	<i>Twelfth Night or What You Will</i> , acts 1 & 2
SIX	10/3	<i>Twelfth Night or What You Will</i> , acts 3–5
SEVEN	10/10	<i>King Lear</i> , acts 1 & 2
	10/12	Essay 1 Due
EIGHT	10/17	<i>King Lear</i> , acts 3 & 4
NINE	10/24	<i>King Lear</i> , act 5
	10/30	Last day to drop or withdraw with a "W."
TEN	10/31	<i>Macbeth</i> , act 1
ELEVEN	11/7	<i>Macbeth</i> , acts 2 & 3
TWELVE	11/14	<i>Macbeth</i> , acts 4 & 5
THIRTEEN	11/21	<i>The Winter's Tale</i> , acts 1–3
	11/23	Essay 2 Due
FOURTEEN	11/28	THANKSGIVING BREAK
FIFTEEN	12/5	<i>The Winter's Tale</i> , acts 4 & 5
	12/12	Performance Projects

Your instructor, Mark Womack, reserves the right to amend any policies listed here with sufficient written and verbal notice.