

August

1. 21 **1st half.** Preliminaries. Texts. Syllabus. Requirements. **2nd half.** Formal *INTRODUCTION* to the course.
 2. 28 *Titus Andronicus* **REVENGE, MUTILATION, SPECTACLE, AND READING**

September

3. 4 *Romeo & Juliet* **SEX, LANGUAGE, AND IDEOLOGY**
 4. 11 *Julius Caesar* **STOICISM AND ITS DISCONTENTS**
 5. 18 *Hamlet* **THE STUDENT FROM WITTENBERG**
 6. 25 **Cont.**

October

7. 2 *Othello* **DESDEMONA (DYS – DAIMON) OR THE FATAL DEMON OF THE MOOR** **ESSAY #1 DUE**
 8. 9 **Cont.**
 9. 16 *King Lear* **INCEST: HOW THE MEAT LOVES THE SALT**
 10. 23 **Cont.**
 11. 30 **Cont.**

November

12. 6 *Macbeth* **EQUIVOCATION, OR "LIES LIKE TRUTH"**
 13. 13 **Cont.**
 14. 20 *Timon of Athens* **MISANTHROPY AS THE END OF NATURE**
 15. 27 *Antony & Cleopatra* **THE ESCAPE FROM GENDER**

December

16. 4 *Coriolanus* **THE DRAGON AND HIS OBSESSION** **ESSAY #2 DUE**

Aim of the course To grasp the tragedy of *division* — sexual, economic, political — as the motive of Shakespearean tragedy.

Assessment Two essays, 5 pages long each; spot quizzes to assess the reading; no final exam; your **GRADE** depends upon attendance, participation, quizzes, and the essays. But, **MOST OF ALL**, it depends on your **READING** Shakespeare. This course is your opportunity and your challenge to read every word of all ten tragedies. If you do this, you will be a different person by course's end. I know whereof I speak.

Attendance The first 150 minutes of class missed (i.e., one week) will be excused; after that, each class missed **without a valid excuse** reduces your final mark **by 10%**.

Text *Norton Shakespeare based on the Oxford Shakespeare*

There is a Reserve List in Library West containing useful titles for the course.

Office Hours MW 7-8 PM & by appointment

Special notes

Plagiarism is a crime. Plagiarism, if you are convicted of it, entails an "E" in the course as well as other university sanctions. Plagiarism of web-sites is as much a crime as plagiarism of printed materials. See URL <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/>

Attendance is mandatory. What does this mean? In my courses, it means that class is a communal experience that depends upon the participation of everyone, including me and you.

Compensatory assignments are scheduled at my convenience.

Cell phones are *not* welcome in my class. If your phone rings, you will be expected to leave the class and not return that day.

Post-facto arrangements are repugnant to me. Any reasonable request, made in advance and in a proper manner, will be accommodated if at all possible.

TWO VERY IMPORTANT NOTICES

1. THIS COURSE WILL INCLUDE SEXUALLY EXPLICIT LANGUAGE AND TOPICS THAT MANY STUDENTS FIND DISTASTEFUL OR EVEN OFFENSIVE. SUCH LANGUAGE AND TOPICS ARE FREQUENTLY THE VERY PITH OF THE POETRY. SHAKESPEARE, LIKE BEN JONSON, JOHN MILTON, AND A HOST OF OTHER PRE-MODERN ENGLISH POETS, IS NOT IN THE LEAST RELUCTANT TO BE EXPLICIT, EVEN LOUDLY EXPLICIT, WHEN IT SUITS HIM. IF YOU ARE OFFENDED OR OTHERWISE DISCOMMODED BY SUCH LANGUAGE AND TOPICS, YOU ARE STRONGLY URGED TO RE-THINK YOUR DECISION TO ENROLL IN THIS COURSE. SHAKESPEARE'S POETRY CANNOT BE TAUGHT WITH CENSORSHIP OF HIS LANGUAGE, NOR WILL I ATTEMPT TO DO SO.

(Statement approved by English Department 07/2011)

2. THIS COURSE IS NOT A COURSE IN RELIGION — CHRISTIANITY, JUDAISM, ISLAM, OR ANY OTHER RELIGION. BUT REFERENCES TO RELIGION WILL BE FREQUENT AND CRITICAL SINCE THE QUESTION OF SHAKESPEARE’S RELIGION IS A TOPIC OF DEEP INTEREST AND VIGOROUS DEBATE IN CONTEMPORARY SCHOLARSHIP. BUT I AM NOT AT ANY TIME ESPOUSING ANY RELIGION OR CONDEMNING ANY RELIGION IN MY REMARKS. NOR ARE MY REMARKS AT ANY TIME INTENDED TO INVOLVE ANY INDIVIDUAL’S PRIVATE BELIEFS. RATHER, I INTEND TO ANALYZE, INTERROGATE, AND DECONSTRUCT THE QUESTION OF RELIGION IN SHAKESPEARE AND HIS TRAGEDIES. ANY OFFENDED I WILL REFER TO JOHN MILTON: “IT IS AN OFFENSE TAKEN, NOT GIVEN.”

Statements recommended by University of Florida officials

“Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the Instructor when requesting accommodation.” <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/>

UF provides an educational and working environment for its students, faculty, and staff that is free from sex discrimination and sexual harassment. For more about UF policies regarding harassment, see URL <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/studentguide/studentconductcode.php#s4041>

UF has recently instituted minus grades. As a result, letter grades now have different grade point equivalencies. For more information, see URL <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>

Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course based on 10 criteria. These evaluations are conducted online at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu>. Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results>.

University Counseling Services (39)2-1575; Student Mental Health Services (39)2-1171. <http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/Default.aspx>

RAS