



DEPARTMENT OF ARTS AND EDUCATION

COURSE OUTLINE – FALL 2017

EN2390 (A2): Introduction to Shakespeare - 3 (3-0-0) 45 Hours for 15 Weeks

INSTRUCTOR: George Hanna **PHONE:** 780-539-2090
OFFICE: C419 **E-MAIL:** ghanna@gprc.ab.ca
OFFICE HOURS: Mon. and Tues., 3-4:30—or alternate times by appointment.

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION:

A reading of nine plays, representing the range of Shakespeare's work.

***Extended course description is at the end of this document.**

PREREQUISITE(S)/COREQUISITE: Six credits of Junior UT English

REQUIRED TEXT/RESOURCE MATERIALS:

David Bevington, ed. *The Necessary Shakespeare*, 5th ed. Toronto: Pearson, 2017.

ISBN-10: 0134139887 **ISBN-13:** 978-0134139883

DELIVERY MODE: The course work includes lectures, instructor-led seminars, in-class assignments and group oral presentations.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

EN 2390 has been designed to improve students' knowledge of Shakespeare's works, with a close textual reading of histories, comedies, and tragedies from the early to the late periods of Shakespeare's career.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Upon successful completion of the course, students should be able to:

- perform close textual analysis of the plays' poetic language and dramatic structure.
- grasp the political, social, cultural, and historical background of Elizabethan and Jacobean England.

- demonstrate a grasp of traditional and newer, more controversial scholarly approaches to Shakespeare.
- understand the distinctive features of the Elizabethan theatre and the nature of the leading acting companies;
- realize the impact of different acting styles on the performance history of Shakespeare's plays;
- acquire an overview of critical approaches to Shakespeare.

TRANSFERABILITY: UA*, UC, UL, AU, AF, CU, BU, GMU, KUC

***Warning:** Although we strive to make the transferability information in this document up-to-date and accurate, **the student has the final responsibility for ensuring the transferability of this course to Alberta Colleges and Universities.** Please consult the Alberta Transfer Guide for more information. You may check to ensure the transferability of this course at Alberta Transfer Guide main page <http://www.transferalberta.ca> or, if you do not want to navigate through few links, at <http://alis.alberta.ca/ps/tsp/ta/tbi/onlinerearch.html?SearchMode=S&step=2>

** Grade of D or D+ may not be acceptable for transfer to other post-secondary institutions. **Students are cautioned that it is their responsibility to contact the receiving institutions to ensure transferability**

EVALUATIONS:

Brief Take-Home Essay	10%
First Major Paper	20%
Second Major Paper	20%
Individual Oral Participation	10%
In-Class Group Assignments	10%
Final Exam*	30%

* The final exam will be scheduled during the official exam period, December 9-19. As you will not be allowed to write an early or deferred exam, do **not** book travel, work or other activities during the college-wide exam period.

EVALUATION & ASSIGNMENT DUE DATES

- A brief Take-Home writing assignment will be distributed Wed., September 13. Minimum length: 500 words (about 2 typed pages).
Weighting: **10%** of the course grade. Due Mon., September 25.
- 1st Major Essay Due Wed., October 18: Weighting: **20%** of the course grade. 2000-2500 word paper (about 8-10 typed pages)
- 2nd Major Essay Due Wed., November 15: Weighting: **20%** of the course grade. 2000-2500 word essay (about 8-10 typed pages)

- Individual Oral Participation and In-Class Group Assignments—Weighting: **10%**—with a cumulative grade assigned at the end of the course.

GRADING CRITERIA:

Please note that most universities will not accept your course for transfer credit **IF** your grade is **less than C-**.

Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines		Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines
A+	4.0	90-100		C+	2.3	66-68
A	4.0	83-89		C	2.0	63-65
A-	3.7	80-82		C-	1.7	59-62
B+	3.3	76-79		D+	1.3	55-58
B	3.0	72-75		D	1.0	50-54
B-	2.7	69-71		F	0.0	00-49

COURSE SCHEDULE/TENTATIVE TIMELINE:

EN 2390—Introduction to Shakespeare—READING LIST FALL 2017

- Course Introduction—Wednesday, August 30
1. *The First Part of King Henry Fourth*. September 6-11-13-18
 2. *The Second Part of King Henry Fourth*. September 20-25-27-October 2
 3. *Julius Caesar*. October 4-11-16-18
 4. *Othello, the Moor of Venice*. October 23-25-30-November 1
 5. *Twelfth Night*. November 6-8-15-20
 6. *Much Ado About Nothing*. November 22-27-29-December 4
- Last Shakespeare class: Wednesday, December 6, 2017

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:

ATTENDANCE:

Excessive absenteeism—defined as **more than two unexcused absences** per term—may

adversely affect your grade. ***Students with more than four unexcused absences may be debarred from writing the Final Exam.***

Classroom Etiquette—or, Rules of Engagement in an Academic Environment

- Punctuality
- Attentive listening
- Contributions to class discussions
- No texting during lectures or class discussions
- No listening to iPhones or iPods
- No engaging in side conversations while the instructor or other students are speaking
- No leaving before the end of class

Email Etiquette

You are welcome to email me about course-related matters. To ensure that I read your messages,

- **Be sure to provide a specific subject line.**
- **Identify yourself by name, course and section number.**

Email Attachments

Whenever you email me an assignment, it must be attached either as a Word document (.doc or .docx) or in Rich Text Format (.rtf). I cannot open documents sent in other formats!

STATEMENT ON PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING:

Cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated and there will be penalties. For a more precise definition of plagiarism and its consequences, refer to the Student Conduct section of the College Calendar at <http://www.gprc.ab.ca/programs/calendar/> or the College Policy on Student Misconduct: Plagiarism and Cheating at <https://www.gprc.ab.ca/about/administration/policies>

Instructors reserve the right to use electronic plagiarism detection services on written assignments. **Instructors also reserve the right to ban the use of any form of electronics (cell phones, Blackberries, iPods, tablets, scanning pens, electronic dictionaries, etc.) during class and during exams.**

**Note: all Academic and Administrative policies are available on the same page.

EXTENDED COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This term, English 2390 examines a selection of plays by the most celebrated English dramatist and poet. The plays to be covered include histories, comedies, and tragedies from the early to the late periods of Shakespeare's career. Aside from these representative dramas, reference will

also be made to a number of Shakespeare's other plays and poems. Some time will be spent exploring the political, social, cultural, and historical background of Elizabethan England, but the main emphasis will be on a close textual reading of the plays' poetic language and dramatic structure.

EN 2390 considers both traditional and newer, more controversial scholarly approaches to Shakespeare. The lectures and seminar discussions will emphasize close textual analysis. Other matters for investigation include the following: the Renaissance; the distinctive features of the Elizabethan theatre and the nature of the leading acting companies; different acting styles; biographical data on the life of Shakespeare; an overview of critical approaches to Shakespeare; the Elizabethan concept of history; the mythology of kingship; characteristics of Elizabethan tragedy and comedy; courtly love and the Petrarchan convention; and the pastoral tradition.