

DEPARTMENT OF ARTS, COMMERCE AND EDUCATION (ACE)

Grande Prairie Regional College

EN 3380 (Shakespeare).
Full Year: 6 credits (3-0-0) UT.

2001-02 Academic Year

SEP. 07 2001

- Three contact hours are required per week.
- EN 3380 (Shakespeare) meets every Wednesday evening, from 6-8:50 p.m.

INSTRUCTOR: George Hanna

OFFICE: C419

OFFICE HOURS: M 1:30-2:30 p.m.
T 10:30-11:30 a.m.
R 10-11 a.m.

PHONE NUMBER: 539-2090

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DELIVERY MODE: Lecture / Class Participation and Discussion / WebCT

PRE-REQUISITES: EN 1000, EN 1010 or an equivalent six credits of first-year English.

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION:

A study of Shakespeare's works, with plays selected from the comedies, histories and tragedies.

LONGER COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This year, English 3380 examines a selection of twelve 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.

The lectures and seminar discussions will focus primarily on textual analysis. Other matters to be discussed 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; the pastoral tradition; and so on.

Shakespeare in Performance:

By covering fewer plays this year, I hope to have sufficient time to incorporate more systematic study of Shakespeare in Performance.

Which of these twelve plays examined this year are most suited for Shakespeare in Performance studies? In each case, what kinds of performances are most relevant - television, cinema or stage? Should loose adaptations of Shakespeare plays be considered?

What justification is there for including Akira Kurosawa's black and white adaptation of Macbeth, titled Throne of Blood? What justification is there for excluding such recent films as 10 Things I Hate About You, a very loose teenage adaptation of Shakespeare's The Taming of the Shrew?

REQUIRED TEXTS & RESOURCES:

- Subject to individual preference and availability of texts, students should either
 - Purchase from the GPRC Bookstore The Complete Works of Shakespeare. Updated 4th edition. Ed. David Bevington. Don Mills, Ontario: Addison Wesley Longman, 1997.
ISBN: 0-321-01254-2
 - Alternatively, **consult your instructor** if you wish to use another Complete Works or different individual editions of the various plays.
 - **Students who prefer individual editions should buy separate Signet or Oxford editions with side glossaries or footnotes.**
- Through **WebCT**, students now have access to an expanded **EN 3380 Course Page**, which contains class announcements, course policies, assignments, recommended reading, Study Guides, and other course materials, including Web links.
- Another important **WebCT** component, the **Discussion Forum**, allows students to take part in virtual classroom discussions, share ideas, initiate or join threaded discussions and brainstorm about Shakespeare's plays.

FALL TERM 2001: A Quick Overview

During the first term, we shall closely examine **six plays** in the order indicated:

1. The Taming of the Shrew (1592-94). [Early Comedy]
2. Much Ado About Nothing (1598-1600). [Mature Comedy]
3. Titus Andronicus (1592-94). [Early Tragedy / Roman Play]
4. Macbeth. (1606-07). [Mature Tragedy]
5. Hamlet (1599-1600). [Mature Tragedy]
6. Richard III (1592-93). [Early History Play, last in four-part 1st tetralogy]

WINTER TERM, 2002: A Quick Overview

During the second term, we shall closely examine **six more plays** in this order:

1. King Lear (1605-06). [Great Tragedy]
2. Henry IV, Part I (1597). [Major History Play, 2nd drama in four-part 2nd tetralogy]
3. Henry V (1598-99). [Major History Play, 4th / last drama in four-part 2nd tetralogy]
4. The Winter's Tale (1609-11). [Late Romance]
5. Measure for Measure (1604). [Problem Comedy]
6. Othello (1603-04). [Great Tragedy]

Whenever appropriate, **background readings and directed Shakespeare film studies** will also be assigned.

Maximum number of plays covered during 2001-02 Academic Year: 12 (twelve)

Genre Breakdown:

Comedies:	2 (two)	* In the broadest possible terms, the two sub-categories, problem comedies and romances , are commonly regarded as comedies . * Viewed from this perspective, we actually examine 4 (four) comedies .
Problem Comedies:	1 (one)	
Romances:	1 (one)	

Histories: 3 (three)

Tragedies: 5 (five)

CONTENT DESCRIPTION

Major activities and timelines are indicated below:

COURSE TESTS AND ASSIGNMENTS:

1st Assignment: 1000-word essay (about 4 typed pages).

Weighting: 10% of the course grade.

Due Date: (Wednesday), October 17

2nd Assignment: 2000-word essay (about 8 typed pages)

on a **film or television production or adaptation** of a Shakespeare play.

Weighting: 15% of the course grade.

Due Date: (Wednesday), January 9

3rd Assignment: 2000-word essay (about 8 typed pages)

Weighting: 15% of the course grade.

Due Date: (Wednesday), March 13

4th Assignment: Online Writing in the form of regular contributions to threaded WebCT Discussion Forums on Shakespeare's various works.

Weighting: 10% of the course grade.

Individual Oral Presentation on an assigned topic.

Deadline(s): Negotiable, depending on the number of students and assigned topics.

Weighting: 10% of the course grade.

Oral Participation in regular seminars throughout the year.

Weighting: 10% of the course grade.

A **3-hour Final Exam**, to be scheduled during the Exam Period, April 15-24, 2002.
Weighting: 30% of the course grade.

ESSAY ASSIGNMENTS - BASIC REQUIREMENTS:

1. All essays must be **typed**.
2. Essays are due on the dates indicated.
 - Students who submit essays after the deadline are normally penalized at the rate of **half a stanine per calendar day**.
 - However, any student experiencing difficulty meeting an essay deadline should contact the instructor to determine if there are reasonable grounds for granting an **extension**.
 - Essays submitted more than one week late may not be accepted.
3. Extensions are **always** granted in cases of sickness, providing the student can produce a note from a doctor.
4. **Subject to time constraints, rewrites are allowed on all essay assignments.**
Paper clip the graded essay (showing the original grade and the instructor's comments) to the back of the rewritten paper and follow other instructions as provided.

EVALUATION / GRADES:

All grades will be expressed in stanine according to the following scale:

STANINE	PERCENTAGE EQUIVALENT	
9	90-100	EXCELLENT:
8	80-89	FIRST CLASS STANDING
7	72-79	GOOD:
6	65-71	SECOND CLASS STANDING
5	57-64	AVERAGE OR SATISFACTORY
4	50-56	PASS

3	45-49	FAIL
2	26-44	
1	0-25	