

**DEPARTMENT OF ARTS & EDUCATION
Grande Prairie Regional College**

**EN 3390 A2 (Studies in Shakespeare).
Half Year 45 hours / 3 credits (3-0-0) UT**

**2008-09 Academic Year
Winter Term 2009**

INSTRUCTOR: George Hanna

OFFICE: C419

OFFICE HOURS: Tuesdays 12 Noon – 1:30 p.m.
Thursdays 1 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Office hours are either as posted or by appointment; posted hours are subject to change. If you have classes during my regular office hours, contact me to set up a meeting at a mutually convenient time.

PHONE NUMBER: (780) 539-2090)

E-MAIL: hanna@gprc.ab.ca

- EN 3390 (Studies in Shakespeare) meets twice weekly: Monday and Wednesday afternoons from 2:30-3:50 p.m. in Room C316 (The Old Board Room—or perhaps “Ye Olde Bard Room”—an alternative name suggested years ago by one of my former Shakespeare students).

DELIVERY MODE: Lecture / Class Participation and Discussion / Oral Presentations.

PRE-REQUISITES: Six credits of Junior English not including EN 1201.

EN 3390 READING LIST WINTER 2009.

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|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. <i>Henry V.</i> | January 12-14-19-21 |
| 2. <i>Antony and Cleopatra.</i> | January 26-28- February 2-4 |
| 3. <i>King Lear.</i> | February 9-11-23-25 |
| 4. <i>Twelfth Night.</i> | March 2-4-9-11 |
| 5. <i>Measure for Measure.</i> | March 16-18-23-25 |
| 6. <i>The Tempest.</i> | March 30-April 1-6-8-13 |

- EN 3390 consists of 13 classes extending from Wednesday, January 7 to Monday, April 13, 2009.
- Plays will be studied in the order indicated directly above.
- Subject to time constraints, we *may* cover up to three additional plays.
- **Textbook:** David Bevington, ed. *The Necessary Shakespeare*, 3rd. ed. Toronto: Pearson, 2008.
- If you already own a different edition of Shakespeare’s *Complete Works* or individual editions of the plays, your text[s] *may* be suitable for this course. A suitable academic edition should contain a comprehensive textual apparatus, including a scholarly introduction, detailed textual notes, a survey of criticism on each play, and an historical overview of stage and film adaptations.

- If in doubt, consult the instructor.

BRIEF CALENDAR DESCRIPTION

Studies of representative plays, along with an investigation of traditional Shakespeare scholarship, performance-based criticism, and diverse new critical approaches.

LONGER COURSE DESCRIPTION

English 3390 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. As well, the course examines both traditional and newer, more controversial scholarly approaches to Shakespeare. 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; and the pastoral tradition.

Evaluation

Due Dates

Take-Home

January 21, 2009

A brief Take-Home writing assignment will be distributed January 14.

Minimum length: 500 words (about 2 typed pages).

Weighting: **10%** of the course grade.

1st Major Essay

February 11, 2009

Weighting: **30%** of the course grade.

2000-2500 word paper (about 8-10 typed pages)

2nd Major Essay

March 30, 2009

Weighting: **30%** of the course grade.

2000-2500 word essay (about 8-10 typed pages)

Group Oral Presentation

April 6, 2009

Weighting: **20%** of the course grade.

[5-6 students per group, depending on class size].

Oral Participation

Twice Weekly

Weighting: **10%** 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 one Alpha letter grade 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. For more detailed instructions, refer to a handout on the instructor's rewrite policies (to be provided by on a separate handout).

GRADES

Grande Prairie Regional College uses the alpha grading system and the following approved letter codes for all programs and courses offered by the College. All final grades will be reported to the Registrar's Office using alpha grades. Alpha grades will be converted to four-point equivalence for the calculation of grade point averages.

Alpha 4-point Equivalence	Descriptor	Conversion of Percentage to Alpha Grade
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* Guideline only.

A+	4.0	Excellent	A+ = 95-100%
A	4.0	Excellent	A = 83-94
A-	3.7	Very Good	A- = 80-82
B+	3.3	First Class Standing	B+ = 76-79
B	3.0	Good	B = 72-75
B-	2.7	Good	B- = 69-71
C+	2.3	Satisfactory	C+ = 66-68
C	2.0	Satisfactory	C = 63-65
C-	1.7	Satisfactory	C- = 59-62
D+	1.3	Poor*	D+ = 55-58
D	1.0	Minimal Pass*	D = 50-54
F	0.0	Failure	0 = 0-49

* Please note that GPRC instructors have the prerogative of employing different scales for converting percentages into alpha letter grades; no prescriptive scale appears in the GPRC calendar.

* For a complete list of letter grades, along with relevant descriptions, read very carefully the **Addendum** to the 2008-09 Calendar, p. 41.

* **MINIMAL PASS**

A grade of D will be considered a minimum passing grade and will normally meet the prerequisite requirements for the next level of study. Exceptions to this will be clearly stated in prerequisite requirements in the course description or in program progression criteria.

* **Other post secondary institutions may not consider grades of D sufficient to award transfer credit.** Currently, the University of Alberta will not accept for transfer courses completed with grades of "D" or "D+". Some post secondary institutions, for example, the University of Calgary, may accept grades of "D" for transfer credit but may not allow you to use the courses as prerequisites to other courses.

AN IMPORTANT NOTE ABOUT PLAGIARISM: Students are expected to read and be familiar with the GPRC policy on **plagiarism**, as defined in the 2008-09 GPRC Calendar (**p. 49**).

ATTENDANCE: Excessive absenteeism - defined as **two or more unexcused absences** - may adversely affect your grade.

REQUIRED READING

- Keep up with the assigned readings.
- Do not show up for class without having read previously assigned material.
- Be prepared to discuss the plays in class.

INDIVIDUAL CONTACT WITH THE INSTRUCTOR

Individual work with the instructor on specific compositions is necessary and expected. Feel free to consult me for help interpreting difficult texts or completing course assignments. If I am not in my office when you drop by, tack a message to my office door, C419. Whenever necessary, email or phone me to discuss any difficulties that you encounter completing this course. If I am not available to take your call, please leave your name, a brief message and a phone number where you can be reached. I make a point of checking my voice mail and office e-mail messages from home.

Final Note

Students absent from class for any reason are responsible for knowing all the material covered during their absence.

