Required Texts and Materials

Books are available for purchase online and from the PSU bookstore. All of the plays of Shakespeare with an asterisk (*) means that this edition is required. The Tempest can be any recent, well-edited edition. You will find that an edition of any of the plays without adequate explanatory notes and glosses will make for a frustrating reading experience.

Christopher Marlowe

William Shakespeare
- The Winter’s Tale, ed. Mario DiGangi, (Bedford-St. Martins, 2008) 978031216704 *
- The Two Noble Kinsmen, ed. Lois Potter (Arden Shakespeare series; Thomson, 1997) 9781904271185*
- The Merchant of Venice, ed. M. Lindsay Kaplan (Bedford-St. Martins, 2002) 0312256248*
- The Tempest

Other:
- Stanley Wells, Shakespeare & Co. (Vintage, 2006) 9780307280534 [highly recommended, not required]
- Other readings distributed online
- This Syllabus and the Schedule of Readings and Assignments: Read both thoroughly and keep them at hand.
- Access to the Internet, some kind of word processing software, and an email account that you check regularly.

About English 301

Course Description:
Shakespeare had readers, patrons, business partners, colleagues, rivals, and family. He existed within a social network that spanned across London’s literary-theatrical world, extended back into Warwickshire, and perhaps into England’s recusant communities. This class will examine selected works of Shakespeare and some of his main rivals and collaborators (Marlowe, Greene, Fletcher, and others) to understand more about the social world that made his and their work possible. Shorter works will be accessed for their connections to Shakespeare’s circle (including dedicatory poems from the First Folio, excerpts from works by Marlowe, Greene, and others). We will also examine biographical documents as they become relevant to our discussions. Students will be expected to discuss each of the primary and ancillary readings both in class and online.

Required Work for ENG 301

Participation:
Basically, this online class is about reading, thinking, reflecting, writing, and reading some more. Our collective identity as a class or “textual community” is determined by our class interactions and discussions. Each student’s participation is vital to this class.

In the event that discussions appear to be non-productive because of the failure of significant numbers of students to complete the assigned reading, I reserve the right to add quizzes or other assessments to assure that material gets sufficient coverage.
Two Substantive, Polished, Essays of 1000 words or more

You will write two essays based on readings assignments and discussion questions posed by the instructor and by your colleagues in class. Unlike most of the online discussions, these essays will be assessed for standard grammar, usage, mechanics and adherence to the conventions of the academic essay. If I notice significant issues with writing (grammar, usage, mechanics, clarity, etc.) I will recommend a visit to PSU’s Writing Center. [http://www.writingcenter.pdx.edu/](http://www.writingcenter.pdx.edu/) (a visit to the Center is never a bad idea in any event). There will be four "essay opportunities" spaced throughout the term; you should choose two of these opportunities to write.

More information on these essays in a separate document.

Examinations:

Two examinations will consist of objective questions (identification, short answer, chronology) and a choice of short essay questions.

Policies

Academic Honesty: Academic dishonesty includes plagiarism. Plagiarism is the deliberate copying of someone else's work, and taking credit for that work. It is possible to copy only a sentence or a few key phrases from another source and be guilty of plagiarism. Credit your sources when using other’s ideas. Please see the PSU English Department’s Statement on Academic Integrity:

[http://www.english.pdx.edu/pdf/AcademicIntegrity.pdf](http://www.english.pdx.edu/pdf/AcademicIntegrity.pdf)

It may be easier than ever to plagiarize thanks to the Internet, but it’s also easier than ever to detect. If an essay is found to be substantially plagiarized, the student will receive a failing grade for the assignment. We will discuss proper citation practices in detail throughout the semester. In the case of a second instance of verifiable substantial plagiarism, the student will receive a failing grade for the course.

Attendance

Attendance is vital to success in this and other PSU English courses. Our collective identity as a class or “textual community” is determined by our class interactions and discussions. Each student’s participation is vital to this class. Attendance includes punctuality. Frequent lateness conveys a lack of respect for your colleagues and for the material, and will be noted accordingly in the Attendance/Participation portion of your grade. If a student does not return to class after a scheduled break, he or she will be considered absent for that day. Missed work that was done in class cannot be made up. Attendance and participation in all class discussions (both face to face and online) will be a significant part of the final grade. For those who wish to enhance or bolster their participation grade, there will be a number of opportunities for those who wish to make brief presentations of key texts, questions, or figures (known as 'Five Minute Findings'). More on this throughout the term.

You may miss class two times with no immediate impact on your grade, and you need not provide a reason for doing so. After the second absence, however, each subsequent absence will lower your participation grade 10 points regardless of the reason, except in extremely unusual and unexpected circumstances (death in the family, documented physical illness, etc). If you are required to miss class for a University commitment, you are obliged to let me know that well enough in advance so that you can make up the work missed.

Other Classroom Policies

Please turn cellphones off or to silent setting. No texting in class, please. If you need to take a call for any reason, please take it outside the classroom.

A word about notebook computers:
Students who wish to use a notebook computer in class for note taking, reading, etc. are of course free to do so. The great thing about them is that they allow for multi-tasking as well. So, if your computer is on and open in class, I am going to assume that you are an excellent multi-tasker and are fully prepared to discussed any and all assigned material for that class (i.e. expect to be called upon).
Grading and Assessment

Students have the right to know where they stand with regard to any graded work. I will distribute some written information on the standards that I use to evaluate your work such as discussions and essays.

Assignments and Point Values

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Essay 1</td>
<td>100</td>
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<tr>
<td>Essay 2</td>
<td>100</td>
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<tr>
<td>Attendance/Participation</td>
<td>100</td>
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<tr>
<td>Midterm Examination</td>
<td>100</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Examination</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total possible</strong></td>
<td><strong>500 points</strong></td>
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Grade Scale

- 500-467 points A
- 466-450 A-
- 449-433 B+
- 432-416 B
- 415-400 B-
- 399-383 C+
- 382-366 C
- 365-349 C-
- 348-300 D
- 299 and below F

Students with Disabilities

The Disability Resource Center (DRC) assists students with disabilities in addressing their academic and other needs. Accommodations are collaborative efforts between students, faculty and the DRC. Students with accommodations approved through the DRC are responsible for contacting the faculty member in charge of the course prior to or during the first week of the term to discuss accommodations. Students who believe they are eligible for accommodations but who have not yet obtained approval through the DRC should contact that office immediately at 503-725-4150.

See also: www.drc.pdx.edu, drc@pdx.edu

I hope you will find this course academically profitable and enjoyable. I remain ready and willing to talk to you about your progress, and look forward to working with each of you.