Professor Thomas Willard  
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Hours: Tuesdays 3:30-4:30, Thursdays 11:15-12:15, and by appointment  
Email: willard@email.arizona.edu     URL: http://www.u.arizona.edu/~willard  
Course web site: http://www.d2l.arizona.edu  
Instructor’s blog: http://blog.ltc.arizona.edu/english231-081

Prerequisites
Completion of 1) Tier One Traditions and Cultures and 2) English Composition.

Course objectives. The university faculty has identified desirable outcomes for all Tier Two courses in Humanities, and I have added specifics in italics. When you have finished this course successfully, you should be able to

1) identify and analyze the impact of cultural and historical factors on the creation and reception of artistic and literary works—specifically the plays of Shakespeare;  
2) relate arguments and ideas from literature and historical documents to the circumstances under which they were written; read primary documents and be able to place them in their historical context; identify disparate ideas from the evidence of these documents—specifically, the ideas from Shakespeare’s plays as they reflect the culture of his time and draw the historical materials available to him and his audiences;  
3) describe how the development of philosophical and religious thought has influenced human civilization—specifically through works of dramatic literature;  
4) use appropriate vocabulary for written and oral descriptions and analyses of literary works—specifically the plays of Shakespeare.

In addition, you should be able to

1) read key speeches, silently and aloud, with understanding and dramatic emphasis;  
2) recognize, appreciate, and describe elements of a good dramatic performance on stage or film;  
3) identify and discuss decisions involved in the adaptation of a classic play for different contemporary audiences.

Texts
Paperback copies of individual plays in the New Folger Shakespeare Library edition, available at the ASUA Bookstore. Books are priced at $6.99 each and are listed in the order in which they will be read:
Materials
3 x 5” index cards. You will need 30 index cards on which to respond to daily questions and prompts. You must turn in a card after each class meeting to indicate your presence at the class. Cards will not be returned, but exceptionally strong or weak responses will be noted in my attendance book and will count toward your participation and progress grade.
8 x 10” blue books. You will need two large (“law college”) blue books, one for each examination. Blue books should have enough sheets that you can write on one side only of each one.

Requirements
Quizzes 20 percent
Content quizzes, in class and on D2L (10 percent)
Essay quizzes and in-class writing (10 percent)
Essays 35 percent
Essay 1 10 percent
Essay 2 25 percent
Exams 40 percent
Midterm 15 percent
Final 25 percent
Progress 5 percent includes attendance and participation

Syllabus
Note: Details are subject to change. A full syllabus will be posted on D2L
Jan. 17 Introduction
Jan. 22 Shakespeare’s life, language, and theater
Jan. 22 Henry V, pages xvi-li and prologue (pages 6-9)
Jan. 24
Week 2
Jan. 29 Act 1
Jan. 31 Acts 2 and 3
Week 3
Feb. 5 Acts 4 and 5
Feb. 7 Essay 1 due
Week 4 Romeo and Juliet
Feb. 12 Acts 1 and 2. Last day to drop w/o a grade of “W”
Feb. 14 Act 3
Week 5
Feb. 19 Acts 4 and 5
Feb. 21 Review
Feb. 26 Midsemester exam
Feb. 28 Titus Andronicus
Week 7 Mar. 4 Acts 1 and 2. Note: performances Mar. 2-30, Torabene Theatre
Mar. 6 Acts 3 and 4
Mar. 11 Act 5. Last day to drop w/ a grade of “W”
Mar. 13 Spring Break
Week 9 Mar. 25 Hamlet
Mar. 27 Acts 2 and 3
Week 10 Apr. 1 Acts 4 and 5
Apr. 3 Twelfth Night
Week 11 Apr. 8 Act 1
Apr. 10 Acts 2 and 3.
Week 12 Twelfth Night Apr. 15 Acts 4 and 5
Apr. 17 Essay 2 due
Week 13 The Tempest Apr. 22 Act 1
Apr. 24 Act 2
Week 14 The Tempest Apr. 29 Acts 3 and 4
May 1 Act 5
Week 15 Review
May 6 Exam Week
May 13 Final exam 2-4

Policies

Extracurricular activity. You are encouraged to attend a performance of Titus Andronicus by the Repertory Theatre on campus. Details of performance dates and times are available on the web at <http://web.cfa.arizona.edu/story.php?id=957&time=5576>.
Offensive material. The Dean of Students requires me to warn you about subject matter you may find offensive. Here, as elsewhere, Shakespeare has it all. You will find drunkenness, incest, murder, and suicide, and that is just in Hamlet. Other subjects include cannibalism (Titus Andronicus), under age marriage (Romeo and Juliet), cross-dressing (Twelfth Night), slavery (The Tempest), and a war of aggression that includes abuse of prisoners (Henry V). Several famous productions feature nudity, and all plays have strong language and off-color jokes. If you are easily offended, Shakespeare is not for you.

Grades. Grading criteria for essays (e.g., generalizations, evidence, documentation) will be given on the assignments, as will the weight given to each criterion. Grades are on individual assignments will be posted on D2L. Students are responsible for checking to make sure that the grade recorded there corresponds to the grade on the work returned. Letter grades will be assigned on the university’s scale (90-100%=A, 80-89%=B, etc.).

Academic honesty. Plagiarism is a serious offense and will be dealt with according to the Student Code of Academic Integrity <http://dos.web.arizona.edu/uapolicies>. Any indebtedness to sources other than course lectures and assigned readings must be documented. The University Library provides valuable information on avoiding plagiarism <http://www.library.arizona.edu/help/tutorials/plagiarism/index.html> and citing sources <http://www.library.arizona.edu/help/tutorials/citation/index.html>.

Absences. Each student is allowed two unexcused absences. Further unexcused absences will adversely affect your grade for participation. A student with excessive absences will be dropped administratively. Students with religious affiliations will be excused on holidays recognized by the university, but should notify the instructor early in the semester. For details see <http://www.registrar.arizona.edu/religiousholidays/calendar.htm#top>. In addition, absences pre-approved by the Dean of Students Office will be honored. Student athletes who will travel during the semester should provide the instructor with a schedule.

Classroom conduct. All students are responsible for creating a classroom climate conducive to learning about drama and avoiding behavior that can prove disruptive such as late arrivals, early departures, private conversations, and sounds from pagers or cell phones are all disruptive. Food and drink other than water are not permitted in the classroom. Threatening behavior of any sort is subject to actions stipulated by the Dean of Students <http://policy.web.arizona.edu/~policy/threaten.shtml>.

Students with disabilities. Anyone registered with the Disability Resource Center and requiring special accommodations should submit appropriate documentation to the instructor as soon as possible. For details see <http://drc.arizona.edu/teach/syllabus-statement.html>.
Adjustments. Details in the syllabus such as dates of assignments may be changed with reasonable advance warning. Policies regarding grades and attendance will not be changed.