Shakespeare 190 (01)

— Shakespeare —

Prof. B. Cantar

Office: Hagey Hall 267
Phone: ext. 3361
Office Hours: Tues/Thurs. 11.30am-1pm.

Course Description and Structure

This course examines eight of Shakespeare’s plays (comedies, histories, romances and tragedies) against the social and political background of the Elizabethan and Jacobean periods. Among other topics, we will discuss the place of the theatre in Shakespeare’s time (and in ours) and whether the plays produce or subvert the social and political constructions of race, class and gender.

The course will consist of lectures followed by class discussion. Therefore students are expected to read the plays prior to the lectures, and be prepared to participate in class discussion which will, on occasion, be highlighted by student readings of selected scenes from the plays.

Texts:

I have ordered Penguin and Signet paperbacks of the eight plays on the course which apart from being very inexpensive also provide helpful introductory essays to each play. However, you may use any volume of Shakespeare’s works providing it is of recent vintage, and includes a relatively up-to-date glossary.

Oliver, H.J., ed. As You Like It (Penguin Classics)
Wells, Stanley, ed. A Midsummer Night’s Dream (Penguin Classics)
Eccles, M. ed. Richard III (Signet)
Hibbard, G., ed. Coriolanus (Penguin Classics)
Glaser, M. ed. King Lear (Signet)
Edwards, P., ed. Pericles (Penguin)
Langbaum, R., ed. The Tempest (Signet)
revised ed. Measure For Measure (Signet)


Assignments and Grading

Two short essays (1000-1500 wds. 4-6 typed pages, 20% each), due Oct. 5th. and Nov. 23th.
A mid-term exam. Oct. 26th. (20%). Final examination (40%).

Please Note: Unless an extension is granted by me for sufficient reason and a medical certificate produced, a penalty of 1% per day will be levied on late papers. NO ESSAY WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER TWO WEEKS FOLLOWING THE DUE DATE.
Reading List

Sept. 14/16  Course objectives; intellectual and historical background; critical approaches to Shakespeare
Sept. 21/23  As You Like It
Sept. 28/30  As You Like It; A Midsummer Night's Dream
Oct. 5/7     A Midsummer Night's Dream ESSAY DUE
Oct. 12/14   Measure For Measure
Oct. 19/21   Richard III
Oct. 26      MID-TERM EXAM.
Oct. 28      Coriolanus
Nov. 2/4     Coriolanus
Nov. 9/11    King Lear
Nov. 16/18   Pericles ESSAY DUE
Nov. 23/25   Pericles; The Tempest
Nov. 30/Dec. 2 The Tempest