ENGLISH 362  Shakespeare I  Fall 1990
Section 01, T 9:00-10:30 and Th 9:00-10:30, HH 150

Professor L. Magnusson
Office: HH264, phone ext. 2759
Office hours: T 10:30-12:00, Th 10:30-11:30

TEXTS


Stanley Wells, ed. The Cambridge Companion to Shakespeare

GRADING AND ASSIGNMENTS

Two essays of five or six double-spaced typewritten pages (or the
equivalent in handwriting). Each essay will account for
approximately 25% of the final grade.

One three-page analysis on a very limited subject will account
for 15% of the grade.

Class work, to include a revision and peer editing exercise based
on the first essay assignment, will account for 10% of the grade.

One term test will account for 25% of the final grade. There will
be no final examination.

Late paper penalty: One number grade (1%) may be subtracted for
each day a paper is late unless an extension is granted for
sufficient cause. While every effort will be made to return work
submitted on or before the deadline within a reasonable period of
time, the marking and return of late work will have a lower
priority.

Timetable for assignments

11 Oct.  First essay due. Topics on dramatic construction
to be distributed.

Revision and peer editing--due dates depend on
return of first essays.

1 Nov.  Short analysis due.

8 Nov.  Term test.

22 Nov.  Second essay due.
TENTATIVE SCHEDULE OF CLASSES

11 Sept.  Introduction. BBC Taming of the Shrew.


18, 20, 25 Sept.  The Taming of the Shrew.

Possible discussion topics to include: For its age, or for all time? Representation of class and gender. Form and structure. Conventions of the theatre and staging possibilities.


Compare representation of women and of society to Taming: the shrew and Lady Tongue. Elements of dialogue.


Some experiments in language and rhetoric.


Trying out tragedy. Romance and family structures. Sonnet discourse/dramatic context. Form and argument; form and persuasion.


The comedy of Romeo and Juliet? Boundaries of theatrical illusion.

8 Nov.  Term test.
13, 15, 20
Nov.
Richard II.

Representing history. The theatre of power; the power of the theatre.


22, 27, 29
Nov.
1 Henry IV.

Politics and power: upholding or subverting the established order? Mirror for a magistrate.

The primary emphasis of this section will be an intensive study of the plays listed above. Students are expected to have read each play with great care by the date of its first treatment in class and to be willing to engage in the classroom discussions. Further chapters in The Cambridge Companion and some articles to be found in the Dana Porter Library may also be assigned as the term proceeds.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE OF BBC SHOWINGS

All showings will be held in AL 212 on Thursday evenings beginning at 7:00 pm. Students unable to attend at this time may arrange to view the BBC videos at the Audio-Visual Centre. Student are strongly encouraged to attend these viewings, but they are not required to do so. References will be made to these productions in the class lectures and some optional assignment questions may relate to them.

20 Sept. The Taming of the Shrew
27 Sept. Much Ado About Nothing
11 Oct. Love's Labour's Lost
1 Nov. A Midsummer Night's Dream
22 Nov. 1 Henry IV