ENGLISH 363: SHAKESPEARE 2
Winter, 2001
Professor B. Cantar
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Office Hours: 10 - 11:30am Tues/Thurs (or by appointment)

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND STRUCTURE
Along with selected documents represented in our text, we will examine eight of Shakespeare's plays written during a highly concentrated and prolific period in his later career as a playwright—post 1600: the great tragedies, the so-called problem comedies, and the romances. These works will be considered against a background of the period's social and cultural concerns, assessing, for example, to what extent the power of the theatre becomes the theatre of power; how the plays both produce and subvert the social and political constructions of race, class, gender, and family relationships. The course will consist of lectures followed by class discussions on specific issues. Therefore, it is essential that the plays are read prior to the lecture, and that you come prepared to discuss key issues that are raised by your own reading, or are provoked by the lectures.

TEXT
Greenblatt, Stephen et al. Ed. The Norton Shakespeare

ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING
Two short essays (1000 wds. 4 typed pages) dealing closely with a specific aspect of a single play, each worth 15% due Jan. 30 and Feb. 27. One long essay (2000-2500 wds. 8-10 double-spaced, word-processed pages), worth 30%, due March 27. Final examination, worth 40%.

Topics for both short and long essays will be provided. Students may propose their own topics but they must first be approved by the instructor and must also concern only the plays written after 1600.

LATE POLICY
Papers are due in class on the due date. Extensions must be arranged with me in advance of the due date. If you hand in your paper at any other time, ask a department secretary to initial it with the date. Then deposit the paper in my English department mailbox. Never slip a paper under my office door, and always keep a copy of any paper you submit. Essays must follow the format laid out in the MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers.
Papers handed in late without prior permission will be returned with a grade but no written comments and will be deducted at the rate of 2% per day late. Papers handed in more than two weeks late without prior permission may not be accepted.

PERSONAL CONSULTATION
My regular office hours are listed at the top of the syllabus: Tues. & Thurs. 10 - 11:30 am. If you have to get in touch with me and I am not in my office, leave a message on my voice-mail. I check these frequently and will get back to you. I am also reachable by e-mail: bcantar@watarts.uwaterloo.ca

PLEASE NOTE:
All students registered in the courses of the Faculty of Arts are expected to know what constitutes an academic offense, to avoid committing academic offenses, and to take responsibility for their academic actions. When the commission of an offense is established, disciplinary penalties will be imposed in accord with Policy #71 (Student Academic Discipline). For information on categories of offenses and types of penalties, students are directed to consult the summary of Policy #71 (Student Academic Discipline) which is supplied in the Undergraduate Calendar (p.1:11). If you need help in learning how to avoid offenses such as plagiarism, cheating, and double submission, or if you need clarification of aspects of the discipline policy, ask your course instructor for guidance. Other resources regarding the discipline policy are your academic advisor and the Undergraduate Associate Dean.
READINGS

Week 1 (Jan 4)
Course outline and structure; localizing Shakespeare: intellectual and political backgrounds; critical approaches.

Week 2 (Jan 9/11)
The Winter’s Tale (p. 2873)
“Robert Greene on Shakespeare” (p. 3321) & “Henry Chettle on Greene and Shakespeare” (p. 3322)

Week 3 (Jan 16/18)
TWT / King Lear
“Contract for the Building of the Fortune Theatre (1600)” (p. 3330)

Week 4 (Jan 23/25)
King Lear
“Master of the Wardrobe’s Account (March 1604)” (p. 3335)

Week 5 (Jan 30/Feb 1) Short essay due Jan 30
Coriolanus

Week 6 (Feb 6/8)
Coriolanus / Hamlet

Week 7 (Feb 13/15)
Hamlet

FEBRUARY 19 - 23 READING WEEK

Week 8 (Feb 27/Mar 1) Short essay due Feb 27
Measure for Measure

Week 9 (Mar 6/8)
MfM / Othello
“Henry Jackson on Othello (September 1610) (p. 3336)

Week 10 (Mar 13/15)
Othello

Week 11 (Mar 20/22)
The Tempest
“Simon Forman on Macbeth, Cymbeline, and The Winter’s Tale (1611) (p. 3336)

Week 12 (Mar 27/29) Long essay due March 27
The Tempest

Week 13 (April 3)
Conclusions: “Shakespeare’s Will (March 25, 1616)” (p.3341) The First Folio 1623 (p. 3346)