CARLA MAZZIO

SHAKESPEARE: THE LATER PLAYS

ENGLISH 310, TU & TH, 11-12:20 PM

UNIVERSITY AT BUFFALO, FALL 2008



DESCRIPTION: This course will focus on Shakespeare's tragedies and romances, starting with an early experiment in tragedy, *Titus Andronicus*, and moving into the later plays including *Hamlet*, *Othello*, *King Lear*, *Macbeth*, *Cymbeline*, *The Winter's Tale*, and *The Tempest*. Weekly assignments will enable students to experiment with a range of interpretive approaches Shakespeare. Assignments will focus, for example, on close reading with attention to the early meanings of words, on the analysis of a filmic adaptation of one play, on performance analysis (with attention to sound, tone, and early conditions of theatrical performance), and on what it may be like to "edit" a Shakespeare play.

TEXTS: *The Norton Shakespeare*, ed. Stephen Greenblatt, *et. al.* The web page for this course, available through <u>http://www.acsu.buffalo.edu/~cjmazzio/courses.html</u>, has weekly assignments (under "electronic syllabus and assignments"), reference materials, and links to any other assigned reading for this course. Students should consult the "electronic syllabus" on a regular basis.

REQUIREMENTS: *Written requirements* include a midterm paper (4-5 pages), a final paper (6-7 pages), and a series of short (1-2 page) response papers, each designed to enable you to experiment with particular forms of literary-critical analysis. Because each assignment is designed to generate class discussion, no assignment will be accepted late. Again, all assignments are posted on the "electronic syllabus" portion of our course website. *Participation requirements* include attendance (mandatory), timely and thoughtful completion of all short writing assignments, active and informed engagement during class and a 20 line memorization of any passage of your choice from Shakespeare. The grade breakdown for this course is as follows: Participation 30%; Midterm Paper 30%; Final Paper 40%.

OFFICE HOURS: I will have office hours every Thursday from 1:00-2:00 PM in #513 Clemens Hall. Please email me at cjmazzio@buffalo.edu by the night before to schedule a time during office hours, or feel free email me to schedule an alternative time by appointment. SYLLABUS

Tu, 8/26: Introduction: Why Shakespeare?

Th, 8/28: Introduction: Backgrounds (see class handout)

Tu 9/2: Titus Andronicus

Th 9/4: Titus Andronicus

Tu 9/9 Titus Andronicus

Th 9/11 Titus Andronicus

Tu 9/16 Hamlet

Th 9/18 *Hamlet* ("What's in a Word" due in class, also email a copy to me at cjmazzio@buffalo.edu by 10 AM before this class)

Tu 9/23 Hamlet

Th 9/25 *Hamlet* ("The Film's the Thing" questions due in class)

*Please note: Hamlet screening time to be announced in class

Tu 9/30 ROSH HASHANAH: NO CLASS

Th 10/2 Othello

Tu 10/7 Othello

Th 10/9 YOM KIPPUR: NO CLASS

Tu 10/14 King Lear

Th 10/16 King Lear ("Editing Lear," due in class, also email to me at cjmazzio@buffalo.edu by 10 AM before this class)

Tu 10/21 King Lear

Th 10/23 King Lear

Tu 10/28 Macbeth

Th 10/30 Macbeth

FRIDAY 10/31 Midterm Paper due. Papers due in my department mailbox on the 3rd Floor of Clemens Hall by 4PM.

Tu 11/4 Macbeth ("The Acoustic Macbeth" due in class)

Th 11/6 Macbeth

Tu 11/11 Cymbeline (Line Memorizations Due -- Times TBA)

Th 11/13 Cymbeline

Tu 11/18 The Winter's Tale (Responses to Questions, due in Class)

Th 11/20 The Winter's Tale

Tu 11/25 The Winter's Tale

Th 11/27 FALL RECESS: NO CLASS

Tu 12/2 The Tempest

Th 12/4 The Tempest

Tu 12/9 Final paper due in my department mailbox on the 4th Floor of Clemens Hall by 4PM.