

## Shakespeare I

English 354  
Fall 2006  
T/R3:25-4:40  
Welles 134

Richard Finkelstein  
Welles 220  
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X5245  
Office Hrs: T/R11-  
12:30 and by appt.

Text: *Shakespeare*, ed. Bevington (5<sup>th</sup> edition)  
You may also use other editions, including earlier Bevington editions, Arden, Riverside, Folger, Oxford, and Norton, which have act, scene, and line numbers. In general, you should read about 2 acts of each play for every class meeting and try to stay about an act ahead of class discussion.

### Class meetings

8/29, 8/31	Introduction; <i>The Comedy of Errors</i>
9/5, 9/7	<i>Errors</i> ; <i>Titus Andronicus</i>
9/12, 9/14	<i>Titus</i>
9/19, 9/21	<i>A Midsummer Night's Dream</i>
9/26, 9/28	<i>Dream</i> ; <i>Sonnets</i> 1-3, 15, 29, 73, 143; begin <i>Richard II</i>
10/3, 10/5	<i>Richard II</i> <b>Paper 1 due 10/5</b>
10/10	<b>FALL BREAK</b>
10/12	<i>Richard II</i> (conclusion); Review
10/17	<b>Hour Exam</b>
10/19	<i>Sonnets</i> 20, 135, 144, 127, 129; <i>Twelfth Night</i>
10/24 10/26	<i>Twelfth Night</i>
10/31, 11/2	<i>Measure for Measure</i>
11/7, 11/9	<i>Measure for Measure</i> ; <i>Othello</i>
11/14, 11/16	<i>Othello</i>
11/21	<i>King Lear</i>
11/23	<b>THANKSGIVING BREAK</b>
11/28, 11/30	<i>King Lear</i>
12/5, 12/7	<i>The Tempest</i> <b>Paper 2 due 12/7</b>
12/19@3:30-6:30	Final Exam

### Additional Assignment:

The Hour Exam on 10/17 will cover some matters related to discussion of the plays and sonnets but mostly it will check on independent work that you should be doing during the first month of the course. I will not be formally lecturing on material from this independent reading assignment. The quiz will cover large parts of Bevington's introduction: page numbers in the 5<sup>th</sup> edition are ix-xxiv, xxix-xxxviii, xl-l, liii-lviii, lxxv-

lxvi, lxxvi-lxxvii, lxxxvii-xcv. I will provide handouts for people who do not have this edition. I encourage you to ask questions about this material at any time but I have also set aside considerable time for extensive questions and answers on 10/12. Starting the reading early will help you assimilate this large amount of material. In addition, our ability to refer to the material will enrich the course.

<u>Evaluation:</u> 2 8-page papers (Due 10/5 and 12/7)	60%
Hour Exam (10/17)	15%
Final Exam (Tuesday, 12/19 @ 3:30)	25%

Videos: Milne Library has the complete BBC video series of Shakespeare's plays which you can check out. A number of interesting films of plays on the syllabus can be found in local video stores, through Netflix or in the English Department. (I have inserted a \* if they are in the Department). Useful film versions include

Hoffman, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*\* (with Calista Flockhart, et al.)  
Noble, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*  
Reinhardt, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*  
Nunn, *Twelfth Night*\*  
Parker, *Othello*\* (with Fishburne, Branagh)  
Taymor, *Titus*\*

I also encourage you to think about seeing Shakespearean appropriations, such as *She's the Man* (based on *Twelfth Night*); *Ran*\* (based on *King Lear*); *Forbidden Planet*\* (based on *The Tempest*); *O* (based on *Othello*); *A Thousand Acres* (a novel by Jane Smiley and a film, based on *King Lear*), *Shakespeare in Love* (based on *Twelfth Night* and *Romeo and Juliet*). If you are interested in appropriations, check with me because there are numerous others in a variety of media.

Shakespeare on the Web: There are a large number of sites on the web, some good, many of dubious quality. You can conveniently gain access to the best ones through <http://shakespeare.palomar.edu/> or by entering the Shakespeare Association of America website at <http://www.shakespeareassociation.org/> and using their links.

Note: I am happy to discuss your ideas and planning for papers with you. However, because I have not found evaluating full drafts of papers helpful to students, I can't actually read fully written papers before they're due. However, by all means come with works in progress. All written work must be completed to pass the course. Late papers require Instructor's consent. Attendance is crucial because this is a discussion class.