

## Shakespeare I

English 355  
Spring 2007  
T/R 3:25-4:40  
Welles 119

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

1/16, 1/18	Introduction; <i>The Taming of the Shrew</i>
1/23, 1/25	<i>Shrew</i> ; begin <i>Merchant of Venice</i>
1/30, 2/1	<i>Merchant</i>
2/6, 2/8	<i>Much Ado About Nothing</i>
2/13, 2/15	<i>Much Ado</i> ; Sonnets 3, 15, 23, 24; 20, 46; 73, 79, 81; 129, 135, 136, 147, 149 <b>Paper 1 Due 2/15</b>
2/20, 2/22	<i>As You Like It</i>
2/27, 3/1	<i>As You Like It</i> ; Review <b>Annotated Bibliography Due 2/27</b>
3/6, 3/8	<b>Hour Exam 3/6; 1Henry IV</b>
	<b>SPRING BREAK</b>
3/20, 3/22	<i>1 Henry IV</i> ; begin <i>Hamlet</i>
3/27, 3/29	<i>Hamlet</i>
4/3, 4/5	<i>Macbeth</i>
4/10, 4/12	<i>Macbeth</i> ; <i>Antony and Cleopatra</i> <b>Paper 2 Due 4/12</b>
4/17	Geneseo Research Day
4/19	<i>Antony and Cleopatra</i>
4/24, 4/26	<i>Antony and Cleopatra</i> ; <i>Pericles</i>
5/1	<i>Pericles</i>
5/4@3:30-6:30	Final Exam

### Additional Assignment:

The Hour Exam on 3/6 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> 1 volume edition are ix-xxiv, xliii-lxxx. In the 5<sup>th</sup>

edition 3-volume set the page numbers are xi-xxvii, xxxii (or xxxi) (starting with London's theatres and dramatic companies)-lxix (or lxviii) (up to the section on Shakespeare's language). I will provide handouts for people who do not have this edition. You are also responsible for additional material which we will discuss in class about the drama before Shakespeare. 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 3/1. Starting the reading early will help you assimilate this large amount of material. Your annotated bibliography will be related to this reading and geared to your final paper. In addition, our ability to refer to the material will enrich the course.

<u>Evaluation:</u> 2 8-page papers (Due 2/15 and 4/12)	50%
Hour Exam (3/6)	15%
Annotated Bibliography (Due 2/27)	10%
Final Exam (Friday, 5/4 @ 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. If starred, we have them in the English Department.

- \*Olivier, *Hamlet*
- \*Branagh, *Hamlet*
- \*Polanski, *Macbeth*
- \*Welles, *Macbeth*
- \*Branagh, *Much Ado About Nothing*
- \*Zeffirelli, *Taming of the Shrew* (Taylor/Burton)
- Radford, *Merchant of Venice* (Pacino/Fiennes/Irons)

I also encourage you to think about seeing Shakespearean appropriations, such as *Scotland, PA* (based on *Macbeth*); Welles, *Chimes at Midnight* (based on the *Henry IV* plays); *Ten Things I Hate About You* (based on *Shrew*); \**Tootsie* (based on *As You Like It*). 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.