

English 15: Introduction to Shakespeare
Fall 2002
Anna Viele

MWF 3-3:50 p.m.
Building 387, Room 103

email: viele@umail.ucsb.edu
(before 8 p.m.)

Office Hours: MW 2-3 and by appointment*

*note: office hours will be held in the Early Modern Center
(South Hall 2510)

Course Home Page: <http://english.ucsb.edu/grad/student-pages/aviele/English15/>

Important Dates:	October 21, 2002	First Paper (3 pages) <i>due in class</i>
	November 22, 2002	Second Paper (5 pages) <i>due in class</i>
	December 16, 2002	Final Exam

Course Description

English 15 provides an introduction to the major poetry and plays of William Shakespeare, a writer whose influence upon literature and culture continues today. In order to explain why Shakespeare has remained an influential cultural icon for over 400 years, we will approach the texts from a literary and performance emphasize the plays as both literary and performance arts. The sonnets provide an introduction to Shakespeare's more technical elements (language and meter), thereby smoothing the transition into understanding five of Shakespeare's more prominent plays (*A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Richard III*, *Hamlet*, *Othello*, and *The Tempest*). We will approach these works as not only "literary" works, but as living scripts for performance that actors and directors have interpreted in a variety of ways. Our study of Shakespearean performance will include several classic and more contemporary film adaptations.

Note: If you are a student with special academic needs and would like to arrange for their accommodation, please contact me during office hours.

Tips for reading Shakespeare (from Diana Solomon):

1. Flag the cast of characters page, and consult it often while reading.
2. Read the act one time through, consulting the footnotes for understanding. Then read it again without the footnotes to understand the larger picture. (Or reverse these steps, depending on what works best for you)
3. Write plot summaries of each act, to refer back to when studying for the final.

Required Texts

The Norton Shakespeare: Based on the Oxford Edition, ed. Stephen Greenblatt, et al., New York: W. W. Norton and Company, 1997. ISBN 0393041077. Available in the Ucen Bookstore.

Attendance & Participation

Ten percent of your grade for this course is determined by participation, and regular attendance and completion of all major assignments are required to pass this course. In my mind, attendance and preparedness for discussion are the two most important factors in determining your participation grade. I have no formal "attendance policy." However, many classes will begin with a quiz on the reading for that day and/or a writing assignment regarding the reading for that day; together, these quizzes make up 10% of your grade. These quizzes cannot be made up, so promptness and regular attendance will in this way affect your grade.

Plagiarism

The student handbook defines plagiarism as "representing the words or ideas of another author as one's own original work [and] may result in a failing grade for the paper, failure in the course, and expulsion from the university." This includes buying papers from the Internet and borrowing from print or web-based sources (published or unpublished) without proper citations. Please consult me and/or the *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers* if you have any questions about the proper procedure of citing your sources.

Grade Breakdown

There will be two papers, a midterm, and a final in this course. The due dates for the papers are listed above; topics will go out approximately one week before the due date of each paper. All papers are due at the beginning of class on the dates listed above.

The percentage value for the assignments is as follows:

Paper 1	10%	Final	30%
Paper 2	25%	Participation	10%
Midterm	15%	Reading Quizzes	10%

Reading Assignments & Class Schedule

F	27 September 2002	Introduction: Preconceptions about Shakespeare and Renaissance England; Bardolatry; Sonnets
M	30 September 2002	Sonnets 1, 6, 12, 15, 18, 20, 55.
W	2 October 2002	Sonnets 93, 116, 130, 135, 136, 138.
F	4 October 2002	Comedies <i>Midsummer Night's Dream</i> , Act I
M	7 October 2002	<i>Midsummer Night's Dream</i> , Act II
W	9 October 2002	<i>Midsummer Night's Dream</i> , Act III
F	11 October 2002	<i>Midsummer Night's Dream</i> , Act IV and V.
M	14 October 2002	Histories <i>Richard III</i> , Act I Paper 1 Assignment
W	16 October 2002	<i>Richard III</i> , Act II and III
F	18 October 2002	<i>Richard III</i> , Act IV
M	21 October 2002	<i>Richard III</i> , Act V Paper 1 Due
W	23 October 2002	<i>Richard III</i> , viewing of <i>Looking for Richard</i>
F	25 October 2002	<i>Richard III</i> , finish <i>Looking for Richard</i>
M	28 October 2002	Tragedies <i>Hamlet</i> , Act I
W	30 October 2002	<i>Hamlet</i> , Act II Midterm Review
F	1 November 2002	Midterm
M	4 November 2002	<i>Hamlet</i> , Act III
W	6 November 2002	<i>Hamlet</i> , Act IV
F	8 November 2002	<i>Hamlet</i> , Act V
M	11 November 2002	<i>Veteran's Day Holiday</i>
W	13 November 2002	<i>Othello</i> , Act I
F	15 November 2002	<i>Othello</i> , Act II Paper 2 Assignment
M	18 November 2002	<i>Othello</i> , Act III
W	20 November 2002	<i>Othello</i> , Act IV and V
F	22 November 2002	<i>Othello</i> , viewing of Masterpiece Theater version of <i>Othello</i>

English 15: *Introduction to Shakespeare*

Fall 2002

Page 3

Paper 2 Due

M	25 November 2002	<i>Othello</i> , finish Masterpiece Theater version of <i>Othello</i>
W	27 November 2002	Romances
		<i>The Tempest</i> , Act I
F	29 November 2002	<i>Thanksgiving Holiday</i>
M	2 December 2002	<i>The Tempest</i> , Act II and III
W	4 December 2002	<i>The Tempest</i> , Act IV
F	6 December 2002	<i>The Tempest</i> , Act V
M	9 December 2002	Final Review

Final Examination: Monday 16 December 2002, 12-3 p.m. in Building 387, Room 103