



**EN 350 Shakespeare  
Winter 2014**

**Course Description**

**Number of Credits: 3**

This course studies thoroughly Shakespeare's drama: the tragedy, romance, comedy, historical play, and problem play. Shakespeare's works are placed in the context of the history and culture of the Elizabethan era. Note: This course can fulfill a Fine Arts elective in all programs.

**Additional Course Information**

This year's course will consider the first half of Shakespeare's dramatic career, roughly up to the year 1600. His major focus during this time was comedy and history plays. Pairing his native English dramatic tradition with the Latin classical one, Shakespeare defined the genre of romantic comedy in these years. At the same time, he was thinking in fascinating ways about the relationship of history and kingship to the dramatic categories of plot and character. These interests, then, will be ours, though we will also study one early tragedy. The second half of Shakespeare's *oeuvre* will be covered next academic year in a new course, EN 451 – stay tuned!

**Class Schedules**

T Th 2:30-3:45pm

Room A2141

Office Hours: T Th 4:15-5:15pm

**Instructor Information**

Dr J. Goossen

Office: L2062

[JGoossen@ambrose.edu](mailto:JGoossen@ambrose.edu)

403-410-2000 x5960

**Textbooks**

Shakespeare, William. *The Norton Shakespeare: Essential Plays / The Sonnets*. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. Eds. Stephen Greenblatt et al. New York: Norton, 2008. ISBN 978-0393933130.

(Other editions of Shakespeare's plays are acceptable, though you will likely encounter lineation and scene divisions inconsistent with the Norton text that may prove frustrating.)

**Attendance**

Attendance will be taken for every class and counts toward your participation grade.

**Course Outline**

Tuesday	Thursday
	January 9 Course Introduction
January 14 <i>Romeo and Juliet</i> 1-2	January 16 <i>Romeo and Juliet</i> 3-4
January 21 <i>Romeo and Juliet</i> 5  <b>Response due</b>	January 23 <i>Much Ado About Nothing</i> 1-2
January 28 <i>Romeo and Juliet</i> Performance	January 30 <b>Class cancelled: Program Day</b>
February 4 <i>Much Ado About Nothing</i> 3-4	February 6 <i>Much Ado About Nothing</i> 5
February 11 <i>Much Ado About Nothing</i>  <b>Response due</b>	February 13 <b>Midterm Examination</b>
<i>TERM BREAK</i>	
February 25 <i>1 Henry IV</i> 1-2	February 27 <i>1 Henry IV</i> 3-4
March 4 <i>1 Henry IV</i> 5	March 6 <i>1 Henry IV</i> Performance
March 11 <i>2 Henry IV</i> (excerpts; on Moodle)	March 13 <i>Henry V</i> 1-2
March 18 <i>Henry V</i> 3-4	March 20 <i>Henry V</i> 5  <b>Response due</b>
March 25 <i>Twelfth Night</i> 1-2	March 27 <i>Twelfth Night</i> 3-4

Tuesday	Thursday
<p>April 1 <i>Twelfth Night</i> 5</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Response due</b></p>	<p>April 3 <i>Twelfth Night</i> Performance</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Thesis statement due</b> (via Moodle)</p>
<p>April 8 <b>Last Class</b> Exam Review</p>	<p>April 10 Professor away - class cancelled <b>Research Essay due Fri, April 11</b> (hard copy to prof's mailbox)</p>
<p><b>Final Exam: Tuesday, April 15, 9:00am-12:00pm</b></p>	

## Course Requirements

- **Primary readings** must be completed before the class for which they are assigned. Additional secondary reading may be assigned at the instructor's discretion.
- Class sessions will be largely devoted to considering the assigned texts. **Always bring your textbook** to class.
- In addition to assigned readings, **you are responsible for the content of all lectures** on the historical and literary backgrounds of these readings. In other words, attend class.
- **All** assignments must be submitted to receive a passing final grade.
- **Extensions** may be granted on essay assignments in exceptional circumstances, but must be arranged in advance. **Late papers** will be marked down one refined letter grade per class day late.
- The most current version of this syllabus, readings marked "Moodle" on the schedule, and any supplementary handouts will always be available on Moodle.

### **Participation & Reading Quizzes – 10%**

This is a senior English course. As such, it requires active, thoughtful **participation** from each member: look alert, ask questions, share your thoughts, and visit my office when you need help. It goes without saying that doing all of this necessitates regular attendance: skip classes and your grade will suffer. Moreover, intelligent participation also depends upon thorough and careful reading of the assigned texts. To encourage this, **short reading quizzes** will regularly be inflicted at the beginning of class

### **Reading Responses – 2 x 5% = 10%**

Write a **two-page** response to the assigned dramatist and criticism. You will be graded on the degree to which your response demonstrates comprehension of important aspects of the texts in question. **Four** response dates are noted on the course calendar; choose any **two**. However, **you may not** submit a reading response for a play you are assigned to perform. **Due as an email attachment at noon on Jan. 21; Feb. 11; Mar. 20; April 1.**

### **Group Performance – 15%**

We are studying play scripts, which were originally blueprints for performance. This project is meant to reveal how meaning in the theatre is embodied and three-dimensional. Once you have been placed in a performance group, choose a scene of your play to act out. Not everyone in your group has to have a role as an actor, but everyone must be involved in the "production" of your scene in some way (whether as director, actor, or stage manager).

### **Research Paper – 30%**

Write a **10-12 page** research paper. You may not write on an author on whom you present. You must submit your tentative thesis statement and list of sources on **Thursday, April 3** to Moodle; the essay is **due Friday, April 11** in hard copy.

### **Midterm Examination – 15%**

This will consist of several long paragraph analyses of a small number of play quotations. **In class, February 13.**

### **Final Examination – 25%**

The exam will be comprehensive of the entire course. **April 15.**

*Further directions for these assignments will be given well before they are due.*

## Classroom Etiquette

In order for each of us to get the most out of this class, please observe the following points:

- Arrive on time. Attendance will be taken. If you arrive after a quiz begins, you may not write it.
- Do not talk compulsively. Be self-aware and leave space for others' voices.
- Do not be silent. Speaking is a crucial aid to formulating your thoughts on a topic.
- No eating in class. Unslurped beverages are fine.
- Students may not use any device more technologically complex than a pen in our classroom. Beeping mobile phones will be confiscated.

## Grading

<u>Letter Grade</u>	<u>Percentage</u>	<u>Description</u>
A+	96-100	Excellent
A	91-95	Excellent
A-	86-90	Excellent
B+	82-85	Good
B	75-81	Good
B-	72-74	Good
C+	68-71	Satisfactory
C	63-67	Satisfactory
C-	60-62	Satisfactory
D+	56-59	Poor
D	50-55	Minimum Pass
F	0-49	Failure

## Academic Policies

It is the responsibility of all students to become familiar with and adhere to academic policies as stated in the Student Handbook and Academic Calendar. Personal information, that is information about an individual that may be used to identify that individual, may be collected as a requirement as part of taking this class. Any information collected will only be used and disclosed for the purpose for which the collection was intended. For further information contact the Privacy Compliance Officer at [privacy@ambrose.edu](mailto:privacy@ambrose.edu).

## Extensions

Although extensions to coursework in the semester are at the discretion of the instructor, students may not turn in coursework for evaluation after the last day of the scheduled final examination period unless they have received permission for a "Course Extension" from the Registrar's Office. Requests for course extensions or alternative examination time must be submitted to the Registrar's Office by Monday, November 25, 2013 (Fall semester) or Monday, March 31, 2014 (Winter semester). Course extensions are only granted for serious issues that arise "due to circumstances beyond the student's control."

## Academic Integrity

We are committed to fostering personal integrity and will not overlook breaches of integrity such as plagiarism and cheating. Academic dishonesty is taken seriously at Ambrose University College as it undermines our academic standards and affects the integrity of each member of our learning community. Any attempt to obtain credit for academic work through fraudulent, deceptive, or dishonest means is academic dishonesty. Plagiarism involves presenting someone else's ideas, words, or work as one's own. Plagiarism is fraud and theft, but plagiarism can also occur by accident when a student fails or forgets to give credit to another person's ideas or words. Plagiarism and cheating can result in a failing grade for an assignment, for the course, or immediate dismissal from the university college. Students are expected to be familiar with the policies in the current Academic Calendar and the Student Handbook that deal with plagiarism, cheating, and the penalties and procedures for dealing with these matters. All cases of academic dishonesty are reported to the Academic Dean and become part of the student's permanent record. In order to discourage plagiarism, papers submitted for this course may be subjected to an originality analysis by *Turnitin* software. For more information, see [http://turnitin.com/en\\_us/features/originalitycheck](http://turnitin.com/en_us/features/originalitycheck).

Students are strongly advised to retain this syllabus for their records.