En 113
Shakespeare's Career: Comedies and Histories
Winter 2022
George Pigman

Requirements and Procedures

By the morning of each class you must send me by email (gwp@caltech.edu) a question on the reading. I will choose one of the questions for a short quiz, which will take place at the beginning of class.

You must write two essays, each approximately 2000 words long. The first is due February 6 at 11:59 p.m., and the second, March 13 at 11:59 p.m. The first essay must be about Shakespeare's use of his primary source for *Richard II*, *1 Henry IV*, or *Henry V*. A topic for the second essay will be assigned, although I encourage you to choose your own. If you do choose one, you must send me a short paragraph stating your thesis or at least describing your topic a week before the essay is due. If you'd like me to read a draft of your essay before submitting it to be graded, I'll try to do so provided that you send it to me a couple of days before it is due.

Roughly two-thirds of your grade will be based on the essays, and the other third on the quizzes and class participation. The course may only be taken for grades.

The easiest way to communicate with me is by email, but I am happy to speak to you in person or on the phone. My office is 208 Dabney, and my extension, 3601.

Recommended Text

The Norton Shakespeare, ed. Stephen Greenblatt, Walter Cohen, Jean E. Howard, Katharine Eisaman Maus, Gordon McMullan, and Suzanne Gossett 3rd. edn. (New York: Norton, 2015).

Most other editions of Shakespeare will be fine, but please bear in mind that texts of his plays can differ considerably. You will need an annotated edition because much of Shakespeare's language will be unfamiliar to you.

Internet Resources

"The Horace Howard Furness Shakespeare Library" (http://sceti.library.upenn.edu/sceti/furness) provides facsimiles of Shakespeare's texts and sources and of other pertinent works. A copy of the first folio, *Mr. William Shakespeares Comedies, Histories, & Tragedies. Published according to the True Originall Copies* (London: Isaac Iaggard, and Ed. Blount, 1623), is available at the Folger Shakespeare Library (https://www.folger.edu/the-shakespeare-first-folio-folger-copy-no page/To+the+Reader/mode/2up). Several of the quartos are available at the British Library (https://www.bl.uk/Treasures/SiqDiscovery/UI/searchTable.aspx?SortBy=Play). The third edition of the *Norton Shakespeare* has extensive electronic resources.

Writing Matters

Caltech's Hixon Writing Center offers a number of resources that you may find useful for supporting your writing in this class, including tutorial support that allows you to discuss a work-in-progress with a professional or peer tutor. You can learn more about the Center, how to make an appointment with a tutor, and about their other resources on their website (http://writing.caltech.edu). This video provides a good introduction to the center (https://youtu.be/6tzPw2daysA).

Plagiarism is a serious offense against the Caltech honor code and against the scholarly community at large; you should become thoroughly familiar with "Avoiding Plagiarism: Guidelines and Expectations for Writing in the Humanities and Social Sciences at Caltech" (http://www.hss.caltech.edu/academics/avoiding-plagiarism).

Schedule[1]

January 7–9	Introduction; *Richard III* (1592–93).
January 14–16	*Richard II* (1594–96).
January 21–23	*1 Henry IV* (1596–97).
January 28–30	*Henry V* (1599).
February 1–3	*Merchant of Venice* (1596–98).
February 8–10	*Much Ado About Nothing* (1598).
February 15–17	*As You Like It* (1599).
February 22–24	*Twelfth Night* (1600–01).
March 1–3	*Measure for Measure* (1604).
March 8	*All's Well That Ends Well* (1606–07).

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[1]The dates of composition are approximate and taken from the third edition of *The Norton Shakespeare.* Please read the entire play for the first class each week.