

En 113b  
Shakespeare's Career: Tragedies and Tragicomedies  
Winter 2013  
George Pigman

*Requirements and Procedures*

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

You must write two papers, each approximately 2000 words long. The first is due February 1 at midnight, and the second, March 20 at midnight. The first paper must be about Shakespeare's use of his source, the seventh novella of the third decade of Giraldi Cinthio's *Hecatommithi* (1565) (a modern translation is available at <http://filebox.vt.edu/users/drad/courses/4166Docs/Cinthio.htm>) in *Othello*. If you have written a paper on Shakespeare's use of his sources in one of his history plays, you may propose your own topic on *Titus Andronicus*, *Hamlet*, *Troilus and Cressida*, or *Othello* by January 25. The second paper will be on your own topic. You must send me a short paragraph about your topic a week before the paper is due. You need to follow the MLA citation style (<http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/01/>). Please send the papers to me as email attachments (Microsoft Word, LibreOffice (OpenOffice), or L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X); name the files with your surname and the number of the paper (e.g. smith1.doc). If you'd like me to read a draft of your paper 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. I grant extensions but do not allow papers to be rewritten once I have graded them.

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

If you wish to bring laptop computers, tablets, etc. to class, please send me an email promising to use them only for classwork. I consider using them, while in class, for email, chatting, surfing, etc. a violation of the Caltech honor code.

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: Based on the Oxford Edition*, ed. Stephen Greenblatt, Walter Cohen, Jean E. Howard, and Katharine Eisaman Maus, 2nd. edn. (New York: Norton, 2008).

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*

"Mr. William Shakespeare and the Internet" (<http://shakespeare.palomar.edu>) provides a good overview, and "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.

*Schedule*<sup>1</sup>

Week of

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|-------------|--|
| January 7   | Introduction; <i>Titus Andronicus</i> (1592–3) |
| January 14  | <i>Hamlet</i> (1600)                           |
| January 21  | <i>Troilus and Cressida</i> (1601–2)           |
| January 28  | <i>Othello</i> (1604)                          |
| February 4  | <i>King Lear</i> (1605)                        |
| February 11 | <i>Macbeth</i> (1606)                          |
| February 18 | <i>Antony and Cleopatra</i> (1606)             |
| February 25 | <i>Coriolanus</i> (1608)                       |
| March 4     | <i>The Winter's Tale</i> (1610)                |
| March 11    | <i>The Tempest</i> (1611)                      |

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<sup>1</sup>Approximate dates of composition from *The Norton Shakespeare*.