

## SYLLABUS

### **HTA 400 (42774) SHAKESPEARE IN TEXT & PERFORMANCE** **Fall 2008**

*Mondays 3:00-4:00, Tuesdays 3:00-4:00, Wednesdays 2:00-4:00*  
*September 3 – November 5, N109*

#### **Instructor:**

Humphrey Tonkin (tonkin@hartford.edu)

Office: Mortensen Library, Room 307. Office telephone: 768-4448

Home telephone: 561-2669 Home fax: 561-5219

Admin. Asst. Judy Kacmarcik, Mortensen Library, 2nd Flr., 768-4269

Website: <http://uhaweb.hartford.edu/TONKIN/intro.html>

Office hours: Tuesdays 1:30-2:30 or by appointment.

#### **Course Objectives:**

To provide students with a subtle and complete understanding of the dynamics of Shakespearean drama through detailed work on *Love's Labours Lost* and *Hamlet*, and reading and discussion of additional material in the course of the semester.

#### **Student Skills to be Developed:**

1. Understanding and reading Shakespearean blank verse effectively.
2. Ability to analyze patterns of imagery and thematic concerns.
3. Historical knowledge: the history of theatre and drama in the period, and the historical context.

#### **Expectations:**

Students will be expected to have read and to be familiar with the following plays of Shakespeare: *The Comedy of Errors*, *The Taming of the Shrew*, *Two Gentlemen of Verona*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *The Merchant of Venice*, *Much Ado About Nothing*, *Twelfth Night*, *The Winter's Tale*, *The Tempest* – plus the major tragedies.

#### **Reading:**

Material should be read in advance of the day on which it is discussed. Students are asked to identify any particularly difficult or problematic passages in the course of their reading, so that these passages can be discussed in class.

#### **Required Texts:**

Students should buy the following. No other texts will do!

William Shakespeare. *Love's Labour's Lost*. Arden Shakespeare. Third Series. Paperback. Ed. H. R. Woudhuysen. ISBN: 1904271103. Published by Thomson Learning. 1998

William Shakespeare. *Hamlet*. Arden Shakespeare: Third Series. Paperback. Ed. Ann Thompson & Neil Taylor. ISBN: 1-904271-31-1. Published by Thomson Learning. 2006

Students should also own a good edition of Shakespeare's collected works.

The *Oxford English Dictionary* is available on line through the library. Students are expected to make good use of it.

**Attendance:**

The course is taught in compressed form in the first half of the semester to give students adequate time for their acting responsibilities later in the semester. Students are expected to work harder and more intensively on this course than they might normally do for a normally scheduled course. Students are expected to attend all sessions, unless they have notified the instructor in advance and made arrangements to cover the material missed.

**E-mail:**

Students are expected to have a working e-mail address capable of receiving individual messages and messages to the class as a whole. They are expected to check it regularly.

**Assignments:**

- Short written assignments will be due every Monday from September 8 on.
- A first paper will be due on Wednesday, October 1.
- A second paper will be due on Monday, October 20.
- A third paper will be due on Wednesday, November 5.
- There may be additional spot quizzes.

**Grading:**

- Class participation 20%. Short assignments 20%. Paper 1 20%. Paper 2 20%. Paper 3 20%. Unexcused absences will affect the class participation grade.
- Late papers will be docked one letter grade per day late.
- All written work for the course must be completed, and regular attendance must be recorded, in order for a student to receive a final grade.
- Students who wish to rewrite papers should talk with the instructor.

**A Reminder:**

Academic Honesty. All the work you submit in this course should be your own, and any sources of information consulted in the completion of that work – including but not limited to friends, other instructors, books, articles, and internet sources – must be acknowledged in the conventional manner (quotation marks, footnotes, bibliography, etc.). Any breach of the Academic Honesty Policy set forth in *The Source* and in the *Manual of Academic Policies and Procedures* will result in failure on the relevant assignment (with no possibility of revision and/or resubmission) and may be grounds for failure in the course. In extreme cases, academic dishonesty may result in suspension or dismissal from the university.

**HTA 400 Fall 2008 Provisional Schedule**  
(Subject to change as the semester progresses)

September

3 Wed. Introduction: The Shakespearean canon.  
*During this week students should read Hamlet, Love's Labours Lost and any of the other plays mentioned in the syllabus that they have not yet read.*

8 Mon. *Hamlet* Introduction  
9 Tu. *Hamlet* Introduction  
10 Wed. *LLL* Introduction  
  
15 Mon. *Hamlet* in context.  
16 Tu. *LLL* in context  
17 Wed. *Hamlet* Act 1. First paper (on *Hamlet*) assigned  
  
22 Mon. *Hamlet* Act 1  
23 Tu. *LLL* Act 1  
24 Wed. *LLL* Act 1  
  
29 Mon. *Hamlet* Act 2  
30 Tu. *Hamlet* Act 2

October

1 Wed. *LLL* Act 2. First paper due  
  
6 Mon. *LLL* Act 2. Second paper (on context) assigned  
7 Tu. *LLL* Act 3  
8 Wed. *Hamlet* Act 3  
  
13 Mon. *LLL* Act 3  
14 Tu. *LLL* Act 3  
15 Wed. *Hamlet* Act 4  
  
20 Mon. *LLL* Act 4. Second paper due  
21 Tu. *LLL* Act 4  
22 Wed. *Hamlet* Act 5. Third paper (on *LLL* assigned)  
  
27 Mon. *LLL* Act 4  
28 Tu. *Hamlet* stage history  
29 Wed. *LLL* Act 5

November

3 Mon. *LLL* Act 5  
4 Tu. *LLL* Act 5  
5 Wed. *LLL* stage history. Third paper due

September 3, 2008