

**GONZAGA-IN-FLORENCE
SAMPLE COURSE SYLLABUS**

English 330 Shakespeare (Fall 2011)

Words are women, deeds are men.
George Herbert, 1651

Through all the drama -- whether damned or not --
Love gilds the scene, and women guide the plot.
Richard Sheridan, 1775

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Office Hours: T/Th 3:00 – 5:00 and by appointment

Required Texts (available at the Gonzaga Bookstore):

Shakespeare's Sonnets, ed. Booth, *Titus Andronicus*, *As You Like It*, *Much Ado about Nothing*, *Hamlet*, *Measure for Measure*, *Cymbeline*

Course Requirements and Grading:

1. Frequent reading quizzes. These are primarily intended to encourage you to keep up with the reading and will sometimes consist of in-class “objective” quizzes, sometimes of short, in-class writing, and sometimes short, take-home writing assignments. Quizzes are worth 10% of your course grade.
2. For 330 Students: Prosody Assignment. Formal analysis of a sonnet. See handout for instructions and passages. This assignment is worth 25% of your grade.
For 418 Students: Research Presentation. A brief (fifteen minute) presentation to the class, accompanied by a research report and bibliography on a topic related to gender in the Early Modern era. This topic must be chosen in collaboration with me and approved by me. This assignment is worth 20% of your grade.
3. Essay #1: 5-6 page formal, thesis driven analysis of a passage, theme or image in *Titus Andronicus*, *As You Like It*, or *Much Ado about Nothing*. No secondary sources allowed. See handout for instructions. This assignment is worth 20% of your grade.
4. Abstracts: You will write two abstracts of secondary sources. The book abstract will be done in collaboration with a partner and on a book assigned by me or of your choosing (pending my approval), and will be four pages long. The essay abstract will be approximately one page long, and on an essay of your finding and choosing. It must be

available in Foley library, and it must be on gender or genre and at least one of the plays on our reading list, and it must have been written after 1990. I will publish all abstracts on line as a reference source for your peers and other students of Shakespeare. Each abstract will be worth 5% of your course grade.

5. Essay #2. 8-10 page formal, thesis driven essay on the specific topic of your choice. At least two secondary sources are required. You may choose to focus on only one play or to follow a theme through two or more plays; however, you must deal extensively with at least one play from the second half of the semester. You are required to conference with me about your final essay during week thirteen, and you must bring a working thesis to your conference. This essay is worth 25% of your grade (the final essay will be worth 30% of the grade of those students who completed the research presentation rather than the prosody assignment).
6. Participation: Your *sine qua non* in this course is active, engaged reading and the ability engage with that reading both orally and in writing. You should get in the habit of taking notes, writing in your margins of your text, and preparing questions and observations for class. This is the meaning of active, engaged reading, and it will not only help your grades but will also make the class more interesting and useful for all involved. Please keep in mind that quality of class participation matters as much as quantity. A quality class participation is frequent, relevant, innovative, and intellectually productive. B quality class participation is frequent and relevant but limited to answering direct questions or summarizing/agreeing with other comments. C quality class participation is occasional and/or comes largely when called upon or otherwise pressured, and does not move the conversation forward. D quality participation reveals a lack of understanding/ awareness of the texts or in some other way retards conversation. F quality participation means that you do not participate. Participation is worth 10% of your course grade.

Policies:

1. Attendance: Your presence in class is inestimably valuable, not only for your own intellectual and academic success in the course, but also for the success of other students in the course and, indeed, the course itself. In accordance with University policy, you are allowed to miss a maximum of four class meetings **for any reason**. After four absences, **even if every one of those absences is necessary and excused**, you will be awarded a grade of “V,” which has the same effect as an “F” and is counted in your GPA. In addition, I will no longer provide feedback on your written work after your fourth absence. Please note that attendance issues can also impact the participation portion of your grade.
2. Late work: You will lose one letter grade for each day an assignment is late. Any assignment that appears after the start of class on the due date will be considered late. If it shows up after midnight that day, it will be considered two days late, and so forth. Exceptions and extensions will only be given only if you make arrangements with me in person before the deadline.
3. Academic Honesty: All work that you submit for this class must be your own and must be

written exclusively for this class. Any sources consulted for your writing must be properly documented. The official definition of plagiarism is probably much broader than you may know. It includes the use of any paper, any phrase, any word, or **any idea** borrowed from anywhere else that is not properly cited. This means that recycling an old paper (or portions thereof) of your own is plagiarism. Letting a friend or tutor write or suggest ideas or otherwise unduly influence your writing is plagiarism. **Paraphrasing** a source without proper citation is plagiarism. Plagiarism is a serious offense with serious consequences. The **minimum** penalty I will apply to any plagiarized item is to record its grade as a zero. If you have any questions about proper use of sources or documentation, come see me before you turn in your work. Written work: All work done outside of class will be submitted electronically and may be submitted to turnitin.com.

4. Email policy: Email is a wonderful tool for communication, but it is one that is frequently abused. Please understand that, while I am happy to answer your emails, it is still a part of our official course interactions. I answer student emails once a workday, and I will not respond if you ask me a question the answer of which is already easily accessible either on the syllabus or on Blackboard. I will not read written work sent to me via email unless I have specifically invited you to do so. I can provide the most helpful feedback in person, so I encourage you to use my office hours freely. If my office hours conflict with other scheduled activities, let me know early in the semester so that we can find other times to meet.
5. Not completing one of the major assignments – the prosody assignment/research presentation or either formal essay – will result in your automatic failure of the class.

Schedule of Events (subject to change)

Week One	Tuesday, 8/30 Thursday, 9/1	Introduction <i>The Sonnets</i> 1-17
Week Two	Tuesday, 9/6 Thursday, 9/8	<i>The Sonnets</i> , 18-22, Prosody Lecture <i>The Sonnets</i> , 23-55
Week Three	Tuesday, 9/13 Thursday, 9/15	<i>The Sonnets</i> , 56-93 <i>The Sonnets</i> , 94- 126
Week Four	Tuesday, 9/20 Thursday, 9/22	<i>The Sonnets</i> , 127-154 <i>The Sonnets</i> , 127-154
Week Five	Tuesday, 9/27 Thursday, 9/29	<i>As You Like It</i> <i>As You Like It</i> Due: Prosody Assignment
Week Six	Tuesday, 10/4 Thursday, 10/6	<i>As You Like It</i> Class Canceled
Week Seven	Tuesday, 10/11 Thursday, 10/13	<i>Much Ado About Nothing</i> <i>Much Ado About Nothing</i>
Week Eight	Tuesday, 10/18 Thursday, 10/20	<i>Much Ado About Nothing</i> <i>Much Ado About Nothing</i>
Week Nine	Tuesday, 10/25 Thursday, 10/27	<i>Titus Andronicus</i> (note: make arrangements to watch the film on your own. A DVD is available on reserve in the library. We will also be discussing the text, so please have read it and bring the book to class.) Due: Essay One <i>Hamlet</i>
Week Ten	Tuesday, 11/1 Thursday, 11/3	<i>Hamlet</i> <i>Hamlet</i>
Week Eleven	Tuesday, 11/8 Thursday, 11/10	<i>Hamlet</i> <i>Measure for Measure</i>
Week Twelve	Tuesday, 11/15 Thursday, 11/17	<i>Measure for Measure</i> <i>Measure for Measure</i> Due: Abstract Assignments
Week Thirteen	Tuesday, 11/22 Thursday, 11/25	Class Canceled Thanksgiving
Week Fourteen	Tuesday, 11/29 Thursday, 12/1	<i>Cymbeline</i> <i>Cymbeline</i>
Week Fifteen	Tuesday, 12/6 Thursday, 12/8	<i>Cymbeline</i> <i>Cymbeline; Conclusion</i>

Final essay due: Monday, Dec. 12 by 5:00 pm.