

San José State University
School/Department
English 78: Introduction to Shakespeare

Professor:	Dr. Adrienne L. Eastwood
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Office Hours:	Monday/Wednesday 12:00- 1:15 p.m. and by appointment
Class Days/Time:	Monday/Wednesday 3:00 – 4:15 p.m.
Classroom:	CL 234
Prerequisites:	N/A

Faculty Web Page and MYSJSU Messaging (Optional)

Copies of the course materials such as the syllabus, major assignment handouts, etc. may be found on my faculty web page at www.sjsu.edu/faculty/eastwood or accessible through the Quick Links>Faculty Web Page links on the SJSU home page. You are responsible for regularly checking with the messaging system through MySJSU.

Course Description

In this course we will grapple with the question: does Shakespeare still matter in the twenty-first century? Students will study several of Shakespeare's plays in depth, and then analyze modern film adaptations of those same works. Some of the pairings we will discuss include: *The Taming of the Shrew – 10 Things I Hate About You* (Dir. Gil Junger); *Othello – "O"* (Dir. Tim Blake Nelson); *Macbeth – Scotland PA* (Dir. Billy Morrisette); *Twelfth Night – She's the Man* (Dir. A. Fickman); *Hamlet – Hamlet* (Dir. Almereyda, with Ethan Hawke). In each case, we will tease out the decisions made by each director in their attempt to remake or reinterpret Shakespeare's work. This course satisfies the requirement in Area C2 (Letters) of the Core General Education.

Course Goals and Student Learning Objectives

GE Learning Objectives:

Students who complete the General Education curriculum should be able to

GE LO 1 – Recognize how significant works illuminate enduring human concerns.

GE LO 2 – Respond to significant works by writing both research-based critical analyses and personal responses

GE LO 3 – Write clearly and effectively. Writing shall be assessed for correctness, clarity, and conciseness

OTHER: - Letters courses will enable students to recognize the role of diversity in culture and society

Required Texts/Readings

Textbook

Folger Editions of the following plays:

The Taming of the Shrew

Henry V

The Tempest

Hamlet

Othello

Macbeth

Classroom Protocol

Please arrive on time and have the materials read in full by the time we begin to discuss them in class. Regular attendance and active class participation are required. I reserve the right to assign quizzes and other written assignments throughout the semester.

Classroom Etiquette: Laptops, cell phones, or other computer devices have no place in this classroom. You must keep these devices put away while you are here. Bring the assigned texts to each class meeting and please arrive on time.

Dropping and Adding

Students are responsible for understanding the policies and procedures about add/drop, grade forgiveness, etc. Refer to the current semester's [Catalog Policies](http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html) section at <http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html>. Add/drop deadlines can be found on the [current academic calendar](http://www.sjsu.edu/academic_programs/calendars/academic_calendar/) web page located at http://www.sjsu.edu/academic_programs/calendars/academic_calendar/. The [Late Drop Policy](http://www.sjsu.edu/aars/policies/latedrops/policy/) is available at <http://www.sjsu.edu/aars/policies/latedrops/policy/>. Students should be aware of the current deadlines and penalties for dropping classes.

Information about the latest changes and news is available at the [Advising Hub](http://www.sjsu.edu/advising/) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/advising/>.

Assignments and Grading Policy

Course Requirements: Have the materials read in full by the time we begin to discuss them in class. Active class participation is required. I reserve the right to assign quizzes and written assignments throughout the semester. There are several films (indicated on the schedule below) that you are required to view for this class. In some cases, these will be screened during class time, but in other cases, you are required to view these films as homework. Whenever possible, I will place these films on reserve at the Instructional Resource Center (IRC), 130 Dudley Moorehead Hall. Otherwise, they are widely available via Netflix or other streaming plans.

Exams: There will be two exams for this course: an in-class midterm given on week 6 and a final. Several unscheduled quizzes may also be given during the semester to ensure that you are keeping up with the reading. The grades on these will count as part of your participation for the course. Some questions on the exam will be designed to enable you to demonstrate how Shakespeare's plays help you to recognize enduring human concerns and the importance of diversity in culture and in literature (GE LO 1)

Written Work: You will be asked to write three short (1-2 pages, single spaced) papers for this class. Topics and directions for each paper will be distributed in advance. One of these will be a research-based essay (GE LO 2). Although in some cases you will be analyzing adaptations of Shakespeare's plays (on stage or screen), your success on these papers will be directly proportional to your knowledge and understanding of the Shakespearean texts. (GE LO 2 & 3)

Film Reviews: When viewing a film is listed as "required," I will be asking you to submit a written review in which you evaluate the directorial decisions against your knowledge of the play itself. In other words, how does the updated version of the play address the main problems or themes posed by the play? (GE LO 1)

Format: Your essays should follow MLA style guidelines which are available here: <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/01/>

Late Papers: Turning in assignments late is unfair to the other students; therefore, I will lower your grade one full letter for each day the paper is late. In the case of emergencies, please contact me.

I will not accept emailed assignments.

Grading Breakdown:	Class Participation: 10%
	Essay 1: 10%
	Essay 2: 10%
	Essay 3: 15% -- Research
	Film Reviews: 10%
	Midterm Exam: 20%
	Final Exam: 25%

The Writing Center: If you have any questions about writing or about your papers, make an appointment with one of the skilled tutors at the new Writing Center located in Clark Hall, Suite 126.

Monday – Thursday, 9 a.m. – 7 p.m., Friday, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Call for appointments: 924-2308

Or go online: www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter

University Policies

Academic integrity

Your commitment as a student to learning is evidenced by your enrollment at San Jose State University. The [University's Academic Integrity policy](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/S07-2.htm), located at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/S07-2.htm>, requires you to be honest in all your academic course work. Faculty members are required to report all infractions to the office of Student Conduct and Ethical Development. The [Student Conduct and Ethical Development website](http://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/) is available at <http://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/>.

Instances of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Cheating on exams or plagiarism (presenting the work of another as your own, or the use of another person's ideas without giving proper credit) will result in a failing grade and sanctions by the University. For this class, all assignments are to be completed by the individual student unless otherwise specified. If you would like to include your assignment or any material you have submitted, or plan to submit for another class, please note that SJSU's Academic Policy S07-2 requires approval of instructors.

Campus Policy in Compliance with the American Disabilities Act

If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, or if you need to make special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible, or see me during office hours. Presidential Directive 97-03 requires that students with disabilities requesting accommodations must register with the [Disability Resource Center](http://www.drc.sjsu.edu/) (DRC) at <http://www.drc.sjsu.edu/> to establish a record of their disability.

SJSU Writing Center

The SJSU Writing Center is located in Room 126 in Clark Hall. It is staffed by professional instructors and upper-division or graduate-level writing specialists from each of the seven SJSU colleges. Our writing specialists have met a rigorous GPA requirement, and they are well trained to assist all students at all levels within all disciplines to become better writers. The [Writing Center website](http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter/about/staff/) is located at <http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter/about/staff/>.

Peer Mentor Center

The Peer Mentor Center is located on the 1st floor of Clark Hall in the Academic Success Center. The Peer Mentor Center is staffed with Peer Mentors who excel in helping students manage university life, tackling problems that range from academic challenges to interpersonal struggles. On the road to graduation, Peer Mentors are navigators, offering “roadside assistance” to peers who feel a bit lost or simply need help mapping out the locations of campus resources. Peer Mentor services are free and available on a drop-in basis, no reservation required. The [Peer Mentor Center website](http://www.sjsu.edu/muse/peermentor/) is located at <http://www.sjsu.edu/muse/peermentor/>

Department Grading Policy:

In English Department courses, instructors will comment on and grade the quality of student writing as well as the quality of ideas being conveyed. All student writing should be distinguished by correct grammar and punctuation, appropriate diction and syntax, and well-organized paragraphs. Grades issued will represent a full range of student performance and will adhere to the following SJSU academic standards of assessment:

The “**A**” essay will be well organized and well developed, demonstrating a clear understanding and fulfillment of the assignment. It will show the student’s ability to use language effectively and construct sentences distinguished by syntactic complexity and variety. Such essays will be essentially free of grammatical, mechanical, and usage errors.

The “**B**” essay will demonstrate competence in the same categories as the “**A**” essay. The chief difference is that the “**B**” essay will show some descriptably slight weaknesses in one of those categories. It may slight one of the assigned tasks, show less facility of expression, or contain some minor grammatical, mechanical, or usage flaws.

The “**C**” essay will complete all tasks set by the assignment, but show weakness in fundamentals (usually development), with barely enough specific information to illustrate the experience or support generalizations. The sentence construction may be less mature, and the use of language less effective and correct than the “**B**” essay.

The “**D**” essay will neglect one of the assigned tasks and be noticeably superficial in its treatment of the assignment—that is, too simplistic or short. The essay may reveal some problems in development, with insufficient specific information to illustrate the experience or support generalizations. It will contain grammatical, mechanical, and usage errors that render some sentences incomprehensible.

The “**F**” essay will demonstrate a striking underdevelopment of ideas and insufficient or unfocused organization. It will contain serious grammatical, mechanical, and usage errors that render some sentences incomprehensible.

“The Department of English reaffirms its commitment to the differential grading scale as defined in the SJSU Catalog (“The Grading System”). Grades issued must represent a full

range of student performance: A= excellent; B= above average; C= average; D= below average; F= failure. Courses graded according to the A, B, C, No Credit system shall follow the same pattern, except that NC shall replace D or F. In such cases, NC shall also substitute for W (or Withdrawal) because neither grade (NC or W) affects students' GPA."

ENGL 78: Introduction to Shakespeare

SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Table 1 Course Schedule

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
1	Aug. 24 Aug. 26	Introductions Why read Shakespeare?
2	Aug. 31 Sept. 2	Shakespeare's Life and Times <i>The Taming of the Shrew</i> (Induction and Act 1)
3	Sept. 7 Sept. 9	LABOR DAY – NO CLASS <i>The Taming of the Shrew</i> (Acts 2 & 3)
4	Sept. 14 Sept. 16	<i>The Taming of the Shrew</i> (Acts 4 & 5) <i>The Taming of the Shrew</i> (In performance) [Topics for Essay 1]
Required viewing: <i>10 Things I Hate About You</i> [Homework]* Recommended Viewing: <i>The Taming of the Shrew</i> , dir. F. Zefferelli, 1967 (Elizabeth Taylor and Richard Burton).		
5	Sept. 21 Sept. 23	<i>Henry V</i> (Acts 1&2) [Review of 10 Things I Hate About You Due] <i>Henry V</i> (Acts 3-5)
6	Sept. 28 Sept. 30	<i>Henry V</i> (Olivier v. Branagh) ESSAY 1 DUE MIDTERM
Recommended Viewing: <i>The Hollow Crown</i>		
7	Oct. 5 Oct. 7	<i>Othello</i> (Act 1) [Topics for Essay 2] <i>Othello</i> (Act 2 & 3)
8	Oct. 12 Oct. 14	<i>Othello</i> (Acts 4 & 5) Screen "O"
9	Oct. 19 Oct. 21	Screen "O" <i>Hamlet</i> REVIEW OF "O" DUE
10	Oct. 26 Oct. 28	<i>Hamlet</i> <i>Hamlet</i> ESSAY 2 DUE
Required viewing: <i>Hamlet</i> dir. Almereyda (with Ethan Hawke)		

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
11	Nov. 2 Nov. 4	<i>Macbeth</i> REVIEW OF Hamlet Due <i>Macbeth</i> [Topics for Essay 3 - Research]
12	Nov. 9 Nov. 11	<i>Macbeth</i> VETERAN'S DAY – NO CLASS
13	Nov. 16 Nov. 18	<i>The Tempest</i> <i>The Tempest</i>
14	Nov. 23 Nov. 25	<i>The Tempest</i> THANKSGIVING – NO CLASS
15	Nov. 30 Dec. 2	Screen Taymor's <i>Tempest</i> ESSAY 3 DUE
16	Dec. 7	LAST DAY OF INSTRUCTION
Final Exam	Dec. 11 12:15-2:30	BRING BLUE BOOKS