Professor Amy Tigner

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Office Hours T/TH 1-2 and by appointment

Class Hours 2-3:20 pm TH

English 4326-001: Shakespeare and the Performance of Gender and Race

In this course, we will be reading seven plays that grapple with early modern and modern notions of gender and race: *Merchant of Venice; Taming of the Shrew;* *Twelfth Night, Or What You Will;* *Antony and Cleopatra;* *Othello;* and *The Tempest.* We will consider how race and gender are constructed in the period, and how this construction affects our ideas about the same subjects today. We will also talk about and, in some cases, view on film modern productions/performances of Shakespeare that highlight the issues of race and gender. We will supplement our reading with provocative and insightful secondary criticism that focuses on gender, race, or how the two are intertwined.

This syllabus is subject to change by the instructor. Please read the syllabus through and keep a paper copy in your notebook in case of alterations.

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| Date | Texts due | Assignments |
| T 1/16 | Introduction to Shakespeare’s World; Gender and Race; the Art of Performance |  |
| Th 1/18 | Read *Merchant of Venice* Acts 1-2 | Daily Reading Quiz |
| T 1/23 | Read *Merchant of Venice* Acts 3-4 | Daily Reading Quiz |
| Th 1/25 | Read *Merchant of Venice* Act 5 | Daily Reading Quiz |
| T 1/30 | *Merchant of Venice* |  |
| Th 2/1 | Read *Taming of the Shrew* Acts 1-2 | Daily Reading Quiz |
| T 2/6 | Read *Taming of the Shrew* Acts 3-4 | Daily Reading Quiz |
| Th 2/8 | Read *Taming of the Shrew* Act 5 | Daily Reading Quiz |
| T 2/13 | *Taming of the Shrew* |  |
| Th 2/15 | **Test One** | **Test One** |
| T 2/20 | Read *Antony and Cleopatra* Acts 1-2 | Daily Reading Quiz |
| Th 2/22 | Read *Antony and Cleopatra* Acts 3-4 | Daily Reading Quiz |
| T 2/27 | Read *Antony and Cleopatra* Act 5 | Daily Reading Quiz |
| Th 3/1 | *Antony and Cleopatra* |  |
| T 3/6 | Read *12th Night* Act 1 | Daily Reading Quiz; **Paper One due** |
| Th 3/8 | Read *12th Night* Acts 2-3 | Daily Reading Quiz |
| T 3/13 | Spring Break-no class |  |
| Th 3/15 | Spring Break-no class |  |
| T 3/20 | Read *12th Night* Acts 4-5 | Daily Reading Quiz |
| Th 3/22 | *12th Night* |  |
| T 3/27 | **Test Two** | **Test Two** |
| Th 3/29 | No Class—I will be at a conference |  |
| T 4/3 | Read *Othello* Acts 1-3 | Daily Reading Quiz |
| Th 4/5 | Read *Othello* Acts 3-5 | Daily Reading Quiz |
| T 4/10 | *Othello* | Daily Reading Quiz |
| Th 4/12 | Read *The Tempest* Acts 1-2 |  |
| T 4/17 | Read *The Tempest* Acts 3-5 | Daily Reading Quiz; **Paper Two due** |
| Th 4/19 | *The Tempest* | Daily Reading Quiz |
| T 4/24 | **Test Three** |  |
| Th 4/26 | **Class Performances** |  |
| T 5/1 | **Class Performances** |  |
| Th 5/3 | **Class Performances** |  |

Required Text: You can use any critical edition of Shakespeare, for example Norton; Penguin; Pelican, Arden Oxford; Cambridge, or any text that has good and current working annotations. You do, however, need a **physical** copy of the text, and **you will need to bring it to class each time**. We will be working with performance, and it is difficult to read from a computer. Do not use *No Fear Shakespeare* or any edition that paraphrases Shakespeare, as language is significant.

Norton Shakespeare

**ISBN-10:** 0393264025

**ISBN-13:** 978-0393264029

**Evaluation:**

3 Tests: 10% each for total of 30%

Paper one: 5-7 pages (Times; 12 pt font; 1 inch margins): 15%

Paper two: 5-7 pages (Times; 12 pt font; 1 inch margins): 15%

Daily Reading Quizzes: 20%

Homework and Participation: 10%

Class Performances: 10%

**Attendance** is expected, but you can miss 2 classes without penalty. Please use these free absences wisely for when you are sick or have an emergency. If you miss more that 2 classes, your overall grade will be lowered a half grade for each absence (from A to A-; etc). If you are seriously ill or you have a family emergency, please speak to me and we will work something out. I will take roll every day by having you sign in. The sign-in sheet will be available only for the first 15 minutes of class; after that you will not be allowed to sign in. You have to show up for your own education.

Each **Test** willcover the two previous plays and will not be comprehensive over the course of the semester. The tests will consist of 3 sections: short answer, quotation identification and essay questions.

I will provide a choice of prompts for each of the two **Papers,** andpaper will concern only the previous 2 or 3 plays. You will be graded on content, style, and grammar. I will provide a rubric by which I will grade the papers. You will turn in these paper via blackboard. Use your last name as the first word for the file name, for example: **Smith.paper1.docx.** Late papers will be accepted for 3 days after the due date only, and for each day late, the paper will suffer a penalty of a half grade (A to A- etc).

**Daily Reading Quizzes** will be quite easy if you do the reading, and I will hand them out first thing after roll. You will only be allowed to take the quiz in class (no make-ups) and during the time allotted at the beginning of class. If you are late, you will only be able to take the quiz if other students are still writing the quiz, but you will not have as long as the other students. If we have finished with the quiz by the time you arrive, you will not be able to take the quiz. If you take the quiz and then leave immediately afterwards, you will be counted absent for the day.

I will give **homework** assignments for you to turn in or for you to do during class; often the homework/in-class work will involve working in groups. I will pay attention to your **class** **participation** and grade you accordingly. Speaking in class (though not over-talking) is encouraged and speaking develops thinking.

Everyone will participate in **Class Performances,** which will be given live, though could have video or other media as part of the performance. Students will be able to choose groups, with the understanding that someone might be added to your group. You should be working on your group performance throughout the semester, so that you will have a polished performance by the end. I expect that you will have your lines memorized. We will talk early about the performances, so that you will have a better idea of what is expected. The performances will be approximately 10 minutes—depending on the number of students in the class. Your group will be graded by a rubric that I will provide in advance.

**Student Learning Outcomes:**

Acquire Critical Reading and Writing Skills

Gain a Working Knowledge of Shakespeare and his World

Achieve Critical language and knowledge concerning Race and Gender

Obtain an Understanding of Performance Principles

Learn the value of Humanist Studies and the Liberal Arts

**Drop Policy:** Students may drop or swap (adding and dropping a class concurrently) classes through self-service in MyMav from the beginning of the registration period through the late registration period. After the late registration period, students must see their academic advisor to drop a class or withdraw. Undeclared students must see an advisor in the University Advising Center. Drops can continue through a point two-thirds of the way through the term or session. It is the student's responsibility to officially withdraw if they do not plan to attend after registering. **Students will not be automatically dropped for non-attendance**. Repayment of certain types of financial aid administered through the University may be required as the result of dropping classes or withdrawing. For more information, contact the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships (<http://wweb.uta.edu/ses/fao>).

**Americans With Disabilities Act:** The University of Texas at Arlington is on record as being committed to both the spirit and letter of federal equal opportunity legislation; reference Public Law 92-112 - The Rehabilitation Act of 1973 as amended. With the passage of federal legislation entitled *Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)*, pursuant to section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, there is renewed focus on providing this population with the same opportunities enjoyed by all citizens.

As a faculty member, I am required by law to provide "reasonable accommodations" to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of that disability. Student responsibility primarily rests with informing faculty of their need for accommodation and in providing authorized documentation through designated administrative channels.  Information regarding specific diagnostic criteria and policies for obtaining academic accommodations can be found at www.uta.edu/disability.   Also, you may visit the Office for Students with Disabilities in room 102 of University Hall or call them at (817) 272-3364.

**Academic Integrity:** All students enrolled in this course are expected to adhere to the UT Arlington Honor Code:

*I pledge, on my honor, to uphold UT Arlington’s tradition of academic integrity, a tradition that values hard work and honest effort in the pursuit of academic excellence.*

*I promise that I will submit only work that I personally create or contribute to group collaborations, and I will appropriately reference any work from other sources. I will follow the highest standards of integrity and uphold the spirit of the Honor Code.*

Instructors may employ the Honor Code as they see fit in their courses, including (but not limited to) having students acknowledge the honor code as part of an examination or requiring students to incorporate the honor code into any work submitted. Per UT System *Regents’ Rule* 50101, §2.2, suspected violations of university’s standards for academic integrity (including the Honor Code) will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct. Violators will be disciplined in accordance with University policy, which may result in the student’s suspension or expulsion from the University.

**Student Support Services Available:** UT Arlington provides a variety of resources and programs designed to help students develop academic skills, deal with personal situations, and better understand concepts and information related to their courses. Resources include tutoring, major-based learning centers, developmental education, advising and mentoring, personal counseling, and federally funded programs. For individualized referrals, students may visit the reception desk at University College (Ransom Hall), call the Maverick Resource Hotline at 817-272-6107, send a message to [resources@uta.edu](mailto:resources@uta.edu), or view the information at [www.uta.edu/resources](http://www.uta.edu/resources).

**Electronic Communication:** UT Arlington has adopted MavMail as its official means to communicate with students about important deadlines and events, as well as to transact university-related business regarding financial aid, tuition, grades, graduation, etc. All students are assigned a MavMail account and are responsible for checking the inbox regularly. There is no additional charge to students for using this account, which remains active even after graduation. Information about activating and using MavMail is available at <http://www.uta.edu/oit/cs/email/mavmail.php>.

**Student Feedback Survey:** At the end of each term, students enrolled in classes categorized as lecture, seminar, or laboratory shall be directed to complete a Student Feedback Survey (SFS). Instructions on how to access the SFS for this course will be sent directly to each student through MavMail approximately 10 days before the end of the term. Each student’s feedback enters the SFS database anonymously and is aggregated with that of other students enrolled in the course. UT Arlington’s effort to solicit, gather, tabulate, and publish student feedback is required by state law; students are strongly urged to participate. For more information, visit <http://www.uta.edu/sfs>.

**Final Review Week:** A period of five class days prior to the first day of final examinations in the long sessions shall be designated as Final Review Week. The purpose of this week is to allow students sufficient time to prepare for final examinations. During this week, there shall be no scheduled activities such as required field trips or performances; and no instructor shall assign any themes, research problems or exercises of similar scope that have a completion date during or following this week *unless specified in the class syllabus*. During Final Review Week, an instructor shall not give any examinations constituting 10% or more of the final grade, except makeup tests and laboratory examinations. In addition, no instructor shall give any portion of the final examination during Final Review Week. During this week, classes are held as scheduled. In addition, instructors are not required to limit content to topics that have been previously covered; they may introduce new concepts as appropriate.

**Grade Grievance Policy**: Any appeal of a grade in this course must follow the procedures and deadlines for grade-related grievances as published in the current undergraduate catalog; see <http://wweb.uta.edu/catalog/content/general/academic_regulations.aspx#10>;

**Emergency Exit Procedures:** Should we experience an emergency event that requires us to vacate the building, students should exit the room and move toward the nearest exit. When exiting the building during an emergency, one should never take an elevator but should use the stairwells. Faculty members and instructional staff will assist students in selecting the safest route for evacuation and will make arrangements to assist handicapped individuals.

**Useful Links:**

The following is a list of commonly used library resources:

Library Home Page <http://www.uta.edu/library>

Subject Guides <http://libguides.uta.edu>

Subject Librarians <http://www-test.uta.edu/library/help/subject-librarians.php>

Database List <http://www-test.uta.edu/library/databases/index.php>

Course Reserves <http://pulse.uta.edu/vwebv/enterCourseReserve.do>

Library Catalog <http://discover.uta.edu/>

E-Journals <http://utalink.uta.edu:9003/UTAlink/az>

Library Tutorials <http://www.uta.edu/library/help/tutorials.php>

Connecting from Off- Campus <http://libguides.uta.edu/offcampus>

Ask A Librarian <http://ask.uta.edu>