***ENGL 27600: Shakespeare on Film***

Fall 2012 MW 10:30-12:20 BRWN 1154

Professor Charles Ross; Heavilon Hall 313

Office hours: MW 1:30-3:30,

Email: [rosscs@purdue.edu](mailto:rosscs@purdue.edu); tel. 494-3729

TA: Jason Lotz: Heavilon Hall 310

Office hours: after class, or by appointment any time

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***Course Description***

In this course we read six plays by Shakespeare, watch film adaptations, and consider the differences between their presentation on the page, the stage, and the screen.

***Course Objectives***

In this class you will

* Read six Shakespeare plays and compare them to movie versions: What was put in; what was left out?
* Consider film as an aesthetic experience and how it differs from a stage play or a text
* Learn about Shakespeare’s life and language, distinguish verse from prose, become comfortable with Shakespeare’s written texts.
* Learn to think about the genres of comedy, tragedy, history, and romance
* Explore what aspects of human nature are timeless, which are culturally conditioned.
* Respond to films based on Shakespeare’s plays orally and in writing, considering cultural issues such as women and agency, tyranny, love and marriage, fathers and daughters, metaphysics and spirituality, friendship, revenge, religion.

***Required Texts:***

Texts are the Oxford World’s Classics paperback editions, available at Von’s Bookstore. (The text formerly use for this class is out of print: Bevington, David. *Shakespeare: Stage, Screen, Script*. New York: Longman Pearson, 2005. Key pages from this text will be available on-line, as will texts of the plays, but for notes, introductions, and line numbers for easy access in class, you need the paperbacks.)

Films are available on reserve in the Hicks Undergraduate Library; all can be watched through Netflix or purchased through Amazon.

Suggested reading: Barton, John. *Playing Shakespeare*. New York: Anchor Books, 1984. This is a series of lessons on speaking Shakespeare’s verse, available also on video and DVD in the Hicks Undergraduate Library.

***Assignments:***

* 2 midterms and a final.
* Three papers. You must choose either paper #1 or paper #2. The other two are your choice of papers 3, 4, and 5.
* Video project on *Macbeth*.
* Class presentation of one homework assignment. You will read one two-page (500 word) essay, following guidelines for oral presentation. The homework can become part of a paper.

***Attendance and Participation***

You are expected to be present in class, both hours, two days per week. Weekly homework is due in person, in writing (hard copy), or you will be marked absent. After the third absence, you will lose a letter grade on the next exam. After the fourth absence, you may be dropped from the course.

Films:

1) *Taming of the Shrew*, directed by Franco Zeffirelli; starring Elizabeth Taylor and Richard Burton (1968; 122 minutes)

2) *Macbeth*, directed by Roman Polanski (1971, 139 minutes)

3) *Romeo&Juliet,* directed by Baz Lurhmann, starring Claire Danes and Leonard DiCaprio (1996; 120 minutes)

4) *The Tragedy of Richard III,* starring Ian McKellen (1995; 104 minutes)

5) *Much Ado About Nothing*, directed by Kenneth Branagh; starring Branagh, Emma Thompson, Keanu Reeves, and Denzel Washington (1993; 111 minutes)

6) *Hamlet*, directed by Franco Zeffirelli; starring Mel Gibson (1990; 135 minutes)

Note: Purdue’s policy on film courses is to schedule them for four hours instead of three. That means an extra 750 minutes of class time per semester. Scheduled screenings for this class take up 716 minutes of this syllabus. That leaves a standard course of three full hours of class time. DVDs are on reserve in the Hicks Undergraduate library.

**Readings:**

from *Shakespeare: Script, Stage, Screen*, ed David Bevington, et al. (Longman’s, 2005) [out of print but available on Blackboard Learn]

“Shakespeare’s Life” (pp. 7-11)

“The Sonnets” (pp. 25-28)

“Shakespeare and Comedy” (pp. 73-76)

“Varieties of Verse and Prose” (pp. 28-31)

“Page to Stage” (pp. 48-49)

“Screenplay to Screen” (pp. 55-68)

“Fathers and Daughters” and “Role Playing” (pp. 81-82)

Lectures are available on Boilercast: [http://boilercast.itap.purdue.edu:1013/Boilercast/](https://exchange.purdue.edu/exchweb/bin/redir.asp?URL=http://boilercast.itap.purdue.edu:1013/Boilercast/)

**The Digital Learning Collaboratory (DLC):**

The DLC (HIKS B853) is full of outstanding resources that you may wish to utilize for your multimedia projects. <http://www.dlc.purdue.edu>.

* *Please be aware of the penalties for doing otherwise, as set forth in Purdue University’s “Academic Integrity: A Guide for Students” [*[*http://www.purdue.edu/ODOS/osrr/integrity.htm*](http://www.purdue.edu/ODOS/osrr/integrity.htm)*.].*
* *Classroom behavior: See the Purdue University “Student Code of Conduct” available at:* [*http://www.purdue.edu/usp/acad\_policies/student\_code.shtml*](http://www.purdue.edu/usp/acad_policies/student_code.shtml)*. Also, given the stationary seating of the Brown Hall 1154, please do not eat or drink during class. Do not annoy your neighbors by texting or doing email during class. Phones should be off.*
* *In the event of a major campus emergency, course requirements, deadlines and grading percentages are subject to changes that may be necessitated by a revised semester calendar or other circumstances. Changes in this course will be announced via email.*
* *On Monday of the fifteenth week of classes, you will receive an official email from evaluation administrators with a link to the online evaluation site.  You will have two weeks to complete this evaluation. Your participation in this evaluation is an integral part of this course. Your feedback is vital to improving education at Purdue University.  I strongly urge you to participate in the evaluation system.*

**Grading:** Points possible for assignments are as follows.

Midterm #1 200

Midterm #2 200

Final Exam 200

Video Project, Attendance, Participation 100

Essay #1 100

Essay #2 200

Final grades will be based on the following percentage scale, out of 1000 points: 100-94 A; 93-90 A-; 89-87 B+; 86-84 B; 83-80 B-; 79-77 C+; 76-74 C; 73-70 C-; 69-67 D+; 66-64 D; 63-60 D-; 59-0 F

**Course Schedule:**

8/20 *The Taming of the Shrew*

8/22 *The Taming of the Shrew*

8/27 *The Taming of the Shrew*

8/29 *The Taming of the Shrew*

9/3 Labor Day (no class)

9/5 *The Taming of the Shrew*

**First Paper: compare a scene in *The Taming of the Shew* to one of more film versions. Email your paper to** [**rosscs@purdue.edu**](mailto:rosscs@purdue.edu) **by September 12. 3-5 pages.**

9/10 *Macbeth* (group video project, parts assigned)

9/12 *Macbeth*

9/17 *Macbeth* [Rosh Hashanah]

9/19 *Macbeth*

9/24 *Macbeth*

9/26 *Macbeth*[Yom Kippur]

10/1 **First Midterm**

10/3 *Romeo and Juliet*

**Second Paper: compare a scene in *Macbeth* to one or more film versions. Email your paper to** [**rosscs@purdue.edu**](mailto:rosscs@purdue.edu) **by October 10. 3-5 pages.**

10/8 No class (October break)

10/10 *Romeo and Juliet*;

10/15 *Romeo and Juliet*

10/17 *Romeo and Juliet*

**Third Paper: compare a scene in *Romeo and Juliet* to one or more film versions. Email your paper to** [**rosscs@purdue.edu**](mailto:rosscs@purdue.edu) **by October 26. 3-5 pages.**

10/22 *Richard III*

10/24 *Richard III*

10/29 *Richard III*

10/31 *Richard III*

**Fourth Paper: compare a scene in *Richard III* to one or more film versions. Email your paper to** [**rosscs@purdue.edu**](mailto:rosscs@purdue.edu) **by November 12. 3-5 pages.**

11/5 **Midterm 2**

11/7 *Much Ado About Nothing*

11/12 *Much Ado About Nothing*

11/14 *Much Ado About Nothing*

11/19 *Much Ado About Nothing*

11/21 No class (Thanksgiving break)

11/26 *Hamlet*

11/28 *Hamlet*

12/3 *Hamlet*

12/5 *Hamlet*

**Fifth paper: Discuss the differences between script and screen versions of either *Hamlet* or *Much Ado About Nothing*. Due by 10:30 AM December 12. Email to** [**rosscs@purdue.edu**](mailto:rosscs@purdue.edu)**. (5-10 pages)**

**Final exam**: TBA, same room (BRWN1154).

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| **Beginning Class List:** |

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| Ahmed, Tasnim R. |
| Andrus, Olivia F. |
| Ballard, David J. |
| Bickett, Tiffni L. |
| Bradford, Cale A. |
| Carter, Elise M. |
| Coleman, Lauren S. |
| Conrad, Alicia E. |
| Davenport, Kailey A. |
| Davis, Molly S. |
| Del Pinal, Daniel |
| Ellisen, Tyler S. |
| Fedro, Steven J. |
| Geheb, Amanda L. |
| Glasgow, Caryn A. |
| Humble, Tiffany A. |
| Juillerat, Jessica A. |
| Kite, Ashley N. |
| Knecht, Chelsea E. |
| Laing, James T. |
| Lugar, Ryan T. |
| Mainard, Kendall S. |
| Matthews, Courtney B. |
| Merrick, Abigail M. |
| Mishler, Luke A. |
| Mroczkiewicz, Jacob K. |
| Mueller, Patrick W. |
| Mumaw, Zarah S. |
| Payne, Monica E. |
| Rasmussen, Adriane N. |
| Rubashkin, Jacquelyn A. |
| Sanfilippo, Michael J. |
| Smith, Charles E. |
| VanMeter, Andrew L. |
| Zhang, Ke |