

ENGLISH 308A: SHAKESPEARE AND MEDIA

ONLINE INSTRUCTION, MARCH 30 – MAY 18

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WAIT, WHAT EVEN IS HAPPENING?

Due to the coronavirus outbreak, the University of Maryland has extended spring break to March 29 and brought instruction online from March 30 to the end of the semester. What follows is a module laying out exactly what you need to do to earn credit in our course, "Shakespeare and Media," during this period.

I know that many of you have concerns about all of this. Please remember that I share your concerns and will do everything I can to ensure that you are able to succeed in this course.

WHAT MATERIALS DO I NEED?

- *Cymbeline*. Ed. Barbara Mowat and Paul Werstine. Folger Shakespeare Library, 2003. ISBN: 9780671722593 (or any other scholarly edition)
- *Henry IV, Part 1*. Ed. Barbara Mowat and Paul Werstine. Folger Shakespeare Library, 2005. ISBN: 9780743485043 (or any other scholarly edition)
- *Much Ado About Nothing*. Rev. edn. Ed. Claire McEachern. Arden Shakespeare, 2016. ISBN: 9781472520296
- Additional readings and viewing materials available via ELMS

HOW WILL MY LEARNING BE ASSESSED?

- Weekly blog posts (35%)
Most of your submitted work for this portion of the course will occur on the course blog. As in previous weeks, your primary goal will be to interpret and analyze the reading and viewing assignment. And, as before, I encourage you to link to a YouTube clip or other link on the open web that helps to illuminate something at stake in that week's reading. Make sure to explain how your pairing helps us understand the course text in a new way.

The differences are:

- 1) **your posts should be substantially longer (at least 500 words each week), and**
- 2) **your posts should respond to the pre-recorded lectures I will upload to the ELMS "Panopto Recordings" section.**

Please note that I will no longer provide prompts on the Wordpress blog. To access the prompts, you will need to watch the lecture on ELMS Panopto. **Please let me know if you are unable to get Panopto to work.**

I will make the lectures available by Friday each week. Your blog posts will be due by midnight on Monday.

<https://english308spring20.school.blog>

Don't forget that your posts are responses to the posted lectures. You will have a lot of flexibility in how you choose to respond to the lectures, but you will need to listen to them and think about them in relation to the reading assignment.

- **Weekly blog responses (25%)**

Each week on Tuesday, I will respond to each student's post individually. Please read my response closely and respond to it by Thursday night. Sometimes I will put you in dialogue with another student; sometimes I will ask you to explore a given idea further; sometimes I will ask you to make a connection to another text. Whatever it is, please do your best to respond thoroughly and imaginatively.

Please also make sure to read your peers' comments carefully. In addition to your response to me, you are required to comment in some depth on at least one of your classmates' posts per week. Your grade will reflect how thoughtfully you engage with me and with your fellow students.

- **Final exam (40%)**

The final exam will take the form of five short essay questions, each asking you to pair two texts on the syllabus. The exam touches on many texts and rewards those who have read attentively throughout the course. I will provide a sample exam so that you are able to practice your responses on the blog and on your own. I will also post a review lecture via Panopto (by May 8) hold a review session on Zoom (on May 11).

The exam will occur online, during the two-hour period allotted for this course. Hopefully you will have all course texts available in hard copy. In a pinch, you can use this resource to access Shakespeare's plays and poems:

<https://internetshakespeare.uvic.ca/>

HOW WILL I SUCCEED IN THIS MODULE?

Please remember that these blog posts and comments should be longer and more substantive than your previous posts. Make use of the analytical and interpretive skills we have worked on in class.

Please aim to complete the required reading assignments before watching my Panopto lectures (and before making your blog post that week).

Each Wednesday, I will hold discussion sections on Zoom. These will give you a chance to ask questions, generate ideas, and connect with me and with your peers. You will not be graded on participation or on whether you are able to connect to these sessions. To join, follow the link within the Zoom section of ELMS.

WHAT RESOURCES ARE AVAILABLE TO HELP ME?

- Your professor

On Mondays from 2-3pm, I will be available on the ELMS "chat" feature. On Wednesdays from 2-3pm, I will hold Zoom discussion sessions for those who are able to connect. Other than that,

email is the best way to contact me. I expect to be able to respond promptly. However, please note that I may sometimes be delayed because school closures have affected my child care obligations.

- University IT
If you do not own a laptop, the University has said that they will send you a loaner via FedEx. They will also help you with wifi access. See <https://it.umd.edu/tech-resources>
- UMD Counseling Center
Located in 1101 Shoemaker, the University of Maryland Counseling Center provides comprehensive support services that promote the personal, social, and academic success of UMD students. Contact them at 301-314-7651 or at <http://www.counseling.umd.edu> for Counseling Services, Accessibility and Disability Services, and testing. Consultation and referral services are also available to UMD faculty, staff, parents, and guardians.

WHAT ARE THE COURSE POLICIES?

- If there are hardships that will affect your course performance, I encourage you to let me know. We can discuss strategies for succeeding.
- It is my intent that students from diverse backgrounds, perspectives, and learning needs be well served by this course and that the diversity students bring to class be viewed as a resource and strength. Dimensions of diversity include intersections of sex, race, age, national origin, ethnicity, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, intellectual and physical ability, primary language, faith and non-faith perspectives, income, political affiliation, marital or family status, education, and any other legally protected class. I endeavor to present materials and activities that foster a positive learning environment based on open communication, mutual respect, and non-discrimination. Please let me know of ways to improve the effectiveness of the course for you personally or other students or student groups.
- Your pronouns, gender, race, sexuality, religion, and dis/ability, among all aspects of your identity, are your choice to disclose and should be self-identified, not presumed or imposed. I will do my best to address and refer to all students accordingly, and I ask you all to do the same.
- For further information on course policies and related resources, see <http://www.ugst.umd.edu/courserelatedpolicies.html>

WHEN ARE THINGS DUE?

Below is a schedule. Please be sure to complete the readings and other assignments by the dates listed.

Monday, March 30

- *Much Ado About Nothing* (entire play)
- Claire McEachern, Introduction to the Arden *Much Ado*, 1-51
- Watch Panopto lecture
- Blog post due by midnight

Wednesday, April 1

- Zoom session, 2-3pm

Thursday, April 2

- Blog responses and comments due by midnight

Monday, April 6

- *Much Ado About Nothing*, dir. Kenneth Branagh (library streaming reserves)
- *Much Ado About Nothing*, dir. Kenny Leon, at the following link: <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1mQgcuwmJBIwe8Snc8YFEIiMtQFb4M2eq?usp=sharing>
- Claire McEachern, Introduction to the Arden *Much Ado*, 52-81, 124-182
- Watch Panopto lecture
- Blog post due by midnight

Wednesday, April 8

- Zoom session, 2-3pm

Thursday, April 9

- Blog responses and comments due by midnight

Monday, April 13

- *Henry IV, Part 1* (entire play)
- Watch Panopto lecture
- Blog post due by midnight

Wednesday, April 15

- Zoom session, 2-3pm

Thursday, April 16

- Blog responses and comments due by midnight

Monday, April 20

- *Chimes at Midnight*, dir. Orson Welles: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CMeVVztByvY&t=1s> (if this link is no longer functional, do your best to watch the film by searching YouTube)
- *My Own Private Idaho*, dir. Gus Van Sant (library streaming reserves)
- Watch Panopto lecture
- Blog post due by midnight

Wednesday, April 22

- Zoom session, 2-3pm

Thursday, April 23

- Blog responses and comments due by midnight

Monday, April 27

- *Cymbeline* (entire play)
- Watch Panopto lecture
- Blog post due by midnight

Wednesday, April 29

- Zoom session, 2-3pm

Thursday, April 30

- Blog responses and comments due by midnight

Monday, May 4

- *Cymbeline*, The BBC Shakespeare Plays, starring Claire Bloom and Helen Mirren: <https://umaryland-on-worldcat-org.proxy-um.researchport.umd.edu/oclc/745912439> (log in using your UMD account and locate *Cymbeline* in the list)
- *Cymbeline*, dir. Michael Almereyda (library streaming reserves)
- Watch Panopto lecture
- Blog post due by midnight

Wednesday, May 6

- Zoom session, 2-3pm

Thursday, May 7

- Blog responses and comments due by midnight

Monday, May 11

- Watch Panopto lecture
- Zoom review session, 2-3pm

Monday, May 18, 1:30-3:30

- Final exam

