

**ENGL 366C A01 Spring 2020 (CRN 21259)**  
**Shakespeare: Comedies, Problem Plays, and Romances**

**Dr. Janelle Jenstad**  
**M, W, Th 2:30-3:20; CLE A211**

**I. Schedule at a Glance**

\* Quizzes are marked with an asterisk.

Class	Date	Day	Play	Plan
1	Jan. 6	M	MND	<b>The early modern (EM) theatrical system:</b> playhouses, players, plots, and playgoers <b>Topics:</b> making plays, illusion, imagination, the player-playgoer contract <b>Genre:</b> conflict, complication, clarification, celebration; green-world comedy; blocking parents; love at first sight <b>Skills:</b> Making a scene-by-scene map; making a doubling chart; looking for dialogic stage directions and place/time/identity clues <b>Tools:</b> <i>The Map of Early Modern London</i> ; <i>Shakespeare's London Theatres</i>
2	Jan. 8	W	MND	
3	Jan. 9*	Th	MND	
4	Jan. 13	M	MND	
5	Jan. 15	W	MND	
6	Jan. 16	Th	MND	
7	Jan. 20*	M	LLL	<b>Genre:</b> courtship, sexual politics, dying parents <b>Approaches:</b> rhetorical analysis <b>Topics:</b> EM education, EM letters, masques and entertainments <b>Tools:</b> <i>Lexicons of Early Modern English</i> ; <i>Silva Rhetorica</i> ; <i>Oxford English Dictionary</i> <b>Skills:</b> reading grammar and social dialogue; working with rhetorical devices <b>* Note that there are two quizzes in this unit. *</b>
8	Jan. 22	W	LLL	
9	Jan. 23	Th	LLL	
10	Jan. 27	M	LLL	
11	Jan. 29	W	LLL	
12	Jan. 30*	Th	LLL	
13	Feb. 3*	M	MWW	<b>Genre:</b> city comedy; marital jealousy; blocking parents; character types; community; women's power <b>Approaches:</b> early texts and digital tools <b>Tools:</b> <i>Database of Early English Playbooks</i> ; <i>Shakespeare Census</i> <b>Skills:</b> working with textual variants; recognizing editorial intervention <b>Feb. 13. Performance Exercise due.</b>
14	Feb. 5	W	MWW	
15	Feb. 6	Th	MWW	
16	Feb. 10	M	MWW	
17	Feb. 12	W	MWW	
18	Feb. 13	Th	MWW	
Reading Break				
19	Feb. 24*	M	MV	<b>Genre:</b> dead parents; money and marriage; erotic competition; marital troubles <b>Topics:</b> EM racism, EM Jews, anti-Semitism, homoeroticism, merchants and moneylenders <b>Approaches:</b> performance history; production-as-interpretation <b>Skills:</b> reading performance Note that I will be out of town on Feb. 27. I will arrange for a guest lecturer to show you the performance clips we will be discussing on Mar. 2.
20	Feb. 26	W	MV	
21	Feb. 27	Th	MV	
22	Mar. 2	M	MV	
23	Mar. 4	W	MV	
24	Mar. 5	Th	MV	
25	Mar. 9*	M	MM	<b>Genre:</b> problematic comedy <b>Approaches:</b> reading Shakespeare in the #MeToo era; EM religious contexts <b>Topics:</b> power and authority; the EM legal system; sexual contracts and the commodification of sex <b>Field trip:</b> UVic Special Collections to look at our copies of the 1599 Geneva Bible <b>Skills:</b> Tracing the traffic of the stage
26	Mar. 11	W	MM	
27	Mar. 12	Th	MM	
28	Mar. 16	M	MM	
29	Mar. 18	W	MM	
30	Mar. 19	Th	MM	
31	Mar. 23*	M	WT	<b>Genre:</b> tragi-comedy <b>Topics:</b> reproduction; women's speech; pastoralism; social status and EM clothing; ballads <b>Tools:</b> <i>English Broadside Ballad Archive</i> <b>Skills:</b> tracing development over time <b>Mar. 26. Essay Due.</b>
32	Mar. 25	W	WT	
33	Mar. 26	Th	WT	
34	Mar. 30	M	WT	
35	Apr. 1	W	WT	
36	Apr. 2	Th	All	Extra time for WT (if necessary). Course wrap-up. Exam prep.

## II. Key to the Texts and Hyperlinks to Course Pages

Hyperlinks work in the PDF version of this syllabus. There are links from the course webpage as well.

MND: [\*A Midsummer Night's Dream\*](#)      LLL: [\*Love's Labour's Lost\*](#)  
MV: [\*The Merchant of Venice\*](#)      MWW: [\*The Merry Wives of Windsor\*](#)  
MM: [\*Measure for Measure\*](#)      WT: [\*The Winter's Tale\*](#)

For advice on which editions to read, see the [course webpage \(https://janellejenstad.com/english-366c-a01-spring-2020/\)](https://janellejenstad.com/english-366c-a01-spring-2020/).

## III. Assessment

- 10%    7 quizzes. See dates below.
- 25%    Performance exercise. Due Thursday, Feb. 13. Prompt to be distributed early in the term.
- 35%    Essay. Due Thursday, Mar. 26. Prompt to be distributed later in the term.
- 30%    Exam during the formal examination period. Date TBA.
- 0%    Attendance and participation. I will circulate an attendance sheet for you to sign each class. Although participation is not a formal component of your grade, you are expected to be sufficiently well prepared to engage in discussion. Five or more absences will trigger my “no comments” policy (see below).

### III.a. Quizzes

For advice on how to study for the quizzes and information on the types of questions to expect, see <https://janellejenstad.com/tips-for-success-on-quizzes/>.

Jan. 9	Quiz on plot of MND, comedy, and theatre
Jan. 20	Quiz on plot of LLL
Jan. 30	Quiz on rhetorical analysis
Feb. 3	Quiz on plot of MWW
Feb. 24	Quiz on plot of MV
Mar. 9	Quiz on plot of MM
Mar. 23	Quiz on plot of WT

### III.b. Exam

The exam will consist of a short-answer section and a comparative essay.

For the **short-answer section**, you will need to study the following: “Facts and Study Questions” pages, character names and roles, relative dates of plays, contextual information, playhouse, rhetorical terms, and bibliographical terminology. You will also need to be able to recognize key quotations from the plays. We will keep a running list of “Terms and Concepts to Know” as the term progresses.

For the **comparative essay**, you will be responsible for reading ONE comedy, problem play, or romance that is NOT on our reading list and comparing it to at least five of the six plays that are on our reading list. You may choose from: *Two Gentlemen of Verona*, *The Comedy of Errors*, *Much Ado About Nothing*, *As You Like It*, *Twelfth Night*, *All's Well That Ends Well*, *Pericles*, or *The Tempest*.

#### IV. Connecting with the Prof



**What to call me:** Either “Dr. Jenstad” or “Janelle” is fine.

**Office:** CLE C327; I am often on campus even if I’m not in my office.

**Phone:** 250-721-7245 (messages feed through to my email)

**Skype:** [janelle.jenstad](#) (for prearranged appointments)

**Consultations:** Weekly office hours are Wednesdays, 3:30-5:30. I will often be available after class on Monday or Thursday as well; check with me before or after class. Other times are possible by appointment (Wednesday or Friday mornings are best).

**Allergy Alert!** Please avoid wearing scent or scented products to class or to my office.

**Email:** [jenstad@uvic.ca](mailto:jenstad@uvic.ca). Email is not a good medium for teaching or learning, and it consumes valuable time that I would rather spend working with you in person. Let’s address complex enquiries in face-to-face or Skype meetings. Please try to use email only to set up appointments, submit assignments, or send information in advance of a meeting.

**Course webpage:** <https://janellejenstad.com/english-366c-a01-spring-2020/>. The password to access course pages is 1564 (the year Shakespeare was born). This webpage links out to course information that is beyond the scope of the syllabus, plus resources, readings, links, tips, prompts, and handouts.

**Mailing List:** [202001-engl366c-21259@lists.uvic.ca](mailto:202001-engl366c-21259@lists.uvic.ca). I will send resources, class previews, news items, and announcements to you via this UVic mailing list. Be sure to identify this address as a “safe sender” so that my emails to you do not end up in your spam or junk folder.

#### V. The Usual Policies and Caveats

**Grading:** I will give you numerical grades, using the scale set out in *University of Victoria Calendar 2019-2020*, January 2020 release: <https://web.uvic.ca/calendar2020-01/undergrad/info/regulations/grading.html#>. Grades on written assignments generally reflect your achievement in three areas: quality of your ideas/engagement/research, mastery of the genre, and mechanics/style. The assignment prompt will set out expectations in more detail.

**Policy on Academic Integrity:** See the *University of Victoria Calendar 2019-2020*, January 2020 release: <https://web.uvic.ca/calendar2020-01/undergrad/info/regulations/academic-integrity.html#>. I’ve been asked to draw your attention in particular to the section on “Unauthorized Use of an Editor.” You will find helpful information on how to avoid inadvertent plagiarism in the Library’s “Citation Help” pages, especially <https://www.uvic.ca/library/research/citation/plagiarism/index.php>.

**Late policy:** To be fair to everyone in the class, the penalty for assignments submitted after the due date/time will be 1% per day or part day.

**Minimal Comments Policy:** If an assignment is late or if you miss 5 or more classes, your work will receive a grade but minimal comments.

**Courtesy and common sense** demand that you

- attend all classes;
- turn off your cell phone and other devices that beep, buzz, or light up (unless you are reading Shakespeare on a mobile device);
- not surf the web or check social media if you are using a laptop in class (it's highly distracting to people behind you!);
- be punctual;
- have your materials ready when the class is scheduled to begin;
- not pack up your materials until the class is over;
- respect those who have the floor in discussions;
- not bring food into the classroom (unless you need to eat for health reasons); and
- not disturb your classmates by chatting or leaving early.

**Illness, Crises, Family Obligations.** If life deals out something unexpected, let me know what adjustments you will need (e.g., extended due dates).

**Accommodations.** Students with diverse learning styles and needs are welcome in this course. In particular, if you have a disability/health consideration that may require accommodations, please feel free to approach me and/or the [Centre for Accessible Learning \(CAL\)](#) as soon as possible. CAL staff are available by appointment to assess specific needs, provide referrals and arrange appropriate accommodations. The sooner you let us know your needs, the quicker we can assist you in achieving your learning goals in this course.

**Wellness.** If you are struggling in any way (psychologically, medically, emotionally, financially, intellectually, organizationally), please ask for help ... from me, from your other professors, from the Literature Adviser (who happens to be me this year), and/or from the many professionals on campus who are here to support you (<https://www.uvic.ca/mentalhealth/graduate/support/index.php>).