

FACULTY OF ARTS  
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

ENGLISH 501.15-01

Fall 2013

COURSE TITLE: Postcolonial Shakespeare

Instructor: Dr. Mary Polito

Office: SS 1044

Phone: 403-220-4666

E-mail: [polito@ucalgary.ca](mailto:polito@ucalgary.ca)

Office hours: Monday and Friday 11:30-12:30 and by appointment

Homepage: <http://english.ucalgary.ca/profiles/mary-polito>

Course times: MWF 1:00-1:50

Class locations: SS1153

**Course description:** The field of postcolonial Shakespeare is now more than twenty years old. Scholars have shown how Shakespeare understood the colonial modes of thinking in development and under scrutiny in his own time; on the other hand, Shakespeareans are keenly aware that Shakespeare has been an instrument of colonization even as he has been made to stand as the hallmark of the superiority of English culture. This course will engage with the topic in two ways. First, we will review the general concerns of postcolonial studies and the ways in which these concerns have been taken up by Shakespeareans historically and in particular since the events of September 11, 2001 when, arguably, the field of postcolonial studies changed. Secondly, we will take up the issue of the ethical challenges inured in light of postcolonial sensibilities in the production of Shakespeare's plays by westerners and natives in what we call the new globalized world. One object of our study will be the Globe to Globe Festival at London's Globe Theatre in spring 2012, where companies from around the world presented 37 plays in 37 languages as part of the World Shakespeare Festival and in conjunction with the 2012 Cultural Olympiad.

**Texts and readings:**

*Shakespeare Beyond English: A Global Experiment*  
*After Empire: Melancholia or Convivial Culture?*

Editors Susan Bennett and Christie Carson  
Paul Gilroy

Shakespeare:

<i>Titus Andronicus</i>	Arden
<i>The Tempest</i>	Arden
<i>Cymbeline</i>	Arden
<i>Love's Labour's Lost</i>	
<i>The Merchant of Venice</i>	Norton
<i>Othello</i>	Norton

**Assignments and Evaluation:**

Essay 1	20%
Essay 2	30%
Essay 3	35%
Participation	15%

Participation will be evaluated according to the following criteria: attendance with text; contributions to general discussions that demonstrate thoughtful and thorough reading; contribution by volunteering to read aloud from the dramatic works; and by attention to the contributions of others (by way of acknowledgement of points made or by way of productive follow up questions or comments).

There will not be a Registrar-scheduled Final Exam in this course.

Students must complete all assignments in order to qualify for a passing grade in this course.

**Late Assignment Policy:**

Late essays will be penalized at the rate of one third of a letter grade per day of lateness (including both Saturdays and Sundays). Thus, if you hand in a paper one day late and it is a B graded essay, the grade will be reduced to B-. Essays will not be accepted by email.

**Grading**

In English 501, assignments will be given letter grades, according to Undergraduate Grading System, as described in the Calendar (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/f-2.html>).

A+/A (4.0); A- (3.7); B+ (3.3); B (3.0); B- (2.7); C+ (2.3); C (2.0); C- (1.7); D+ (1.3); D (1.0); F (0)

Note that there is no grade of D-.

Please note that, according to the University Calendar (F.1), instructors may use their discretion when rounding upwards or downwards when the average of term work and exams is between two letter grades.

Although the A+ is solely an honorific that entails no additional points in the four-point system, the course instructor will employ this mark to distinguish superlative work that exceeds expectations in style, correctness, intellectual depth and breadth, sophistication, and originality.

**Laptop Policy** Laptop computers will be allowed in class only if you use them to take notes or to follow along with classroom demonstrations. Those who cause a distraction by using them for any other purpose will have this privilege withdrawn. Please turn off cell phones during all classes (if you have an emergency situation, please inform the Instructor at the beginning of class).

**Email Policy** Your instructor is happy to reply to short, specific questions via e-mail, and will answer as promptly as possible.

**Plagiarism:**

Using any source whatsoever without clearly documenting it is a serious academic offense. Consequences include failure on the assignment, failure in the course and possible suspension or expulsion from the university. Please refer to the following information and make sure you are familiar with the statement below on plagiarism.

**<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-2-1.html>**

**Scribe and Muse Club for English Students:**

The Scribe and Muse Reading and Writing Club (SMRWC) fosters and champions reading and writing through community service, leadership, and engagement. We strive to enhance the academic and social experience of undergraduate students by promoting academic excellence and interaction between students, faculty, and the community, through social, cultural, and academic events. **<http://english.ucalgary.ca/scribe-and-muse-english-club>**.

Our email address is **[smec@ucalgary.ca](mailto:smec@ucalgary.ca)**.

**English Department Website:**

For more information about courses, programs, policies, events and contacts in the Department of English, please go to our website at **<http://english.ucalgary.ca>**. Please note that the course outlines posted on the English Department website constitute the official course outline for purposes of appeals. Students should verify any hard copies against this posted version. For courses which employ numerical grades, the official departmental percentage to letter grade conversion scale is also posted on the department website.

**Writing support:**

The Student Success Centre offers both online and workshop writing support for U of C students.

**<http://www.ucalgary.ca/ssc/writing-support>**

**Follow the Department of English on Facebook & Twitter:****Academic regulations and schedules:**

Consult the Calendar for course information, university and faculty regulations, dates, deadlines and schedules, student, faculty and university rights and responsibilities. The homepage for the University Calendar is

**<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/index.htm>**

**Guidelines on e-mail Etiquette:**

**<https://www.ucalgary.ca/it/help/articles/email/etiquette>**

**Grade appeals:**

Consult the following University Calendar link and request advice from the English Department office, SS 1152. Please note that “mere dissatisfaction with a decision is not sufficient grounds for the appeal of a grade or other academic decision.”

**<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/i.html>**

**Deferral of term work and final examinations:**

Should you require an extension for completion of term papers or assignments beyond the deadline of five days after the end of lectures, an Application of Deferment of Term Work form must be completed. The University also has regulations governing the deferral of final examinations. See Calendar:

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/g-6.html>,

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/g-7.html>.

**Academic Accommodation:**

It is the students' responsibility to request academic accommodations. If you are a student with a documented disability who may require academic accommodations and have not registered with Student Accessibility Services, please contact them at 403-220-6019. Students who have not registered with Student Accessibility Services are not eligible for formal academic accommodations. More information about academic accommodations can be found at [www.ucalgary.ca/access](http://www.ucalgary.ca/access).

**Emergency Evacuation/Assembly Points:** <http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>;

**Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act:** <http://www.ucalgary.ca/legalservices/foip>

**“Safewalk” Program:**

Campus Security will escort individuals day or night: call 220-5333 for assistance. Use any campus phone, emergency phone or the yellow phone located at most parking lot pay booths.

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/security/safewalk/>

**Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources:**

Have a question, but not sure where to start? The new Faculty of Arts Program Information Centre (PIC) is your information resource for everything in Arts! Drop in at SS110, call us at 403-220-3580 or email us at [artsads@ucalgary.ca](mailto:artsads@ucalgary.ca). You can also visit the Faculty of Arts website at

<http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate> which has detailed information on common academic concerns.

For program planning and advice, contact the Student Success Centre (formerly the Undergraduate programs Office) at (403) 220-5881 or visit them in their new space on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor of the Taylor Family Digital Library.

For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at (403) 210-ROCK [7625] or visit them at the MacKimmie Library Block.

**Contact for Students Union Representatives for the Faculty of Arts:**

[arts1@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts1@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts2@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts2@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts3@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts3@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts4@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts4@su.ucalgary.ca)

**Contact for Students Ombudsman's Office:** <http://www.ucalgary.ca/provost/students/ombuds>

## **PLAGIARISM**

Plagiarism is an extremely serious offence. Please read the following information carefully. The penalty routinely recommended by the English Department for documented plagiarism is failure of the course in which the offence occurred; academic probation is also routinely applied at the Faculty level. Suspension or expulsion can result from severe or repeated plagiarism.

The University Calendar states:

1. Plagiarism - Essentially plagiarism involves submitting or presenting work in a course as if it were the student's own work done expressly for that particular course when, in fact, it is not. Most commonly plagiarism exists when:

- (a) the work submitted or presented was done, in whole or in part, by an individual other than the one submitting or presenting the work (this includes having another impersonate the student or otherwise substituting the work of another for one's own in an examination or test),
- (b) parts of the work are taken from another source without reference to the original author,
- (c) the whole work (e.g., an essay) is copied from another source, and/or,
- (d) a student submits or presents work in one course which has also been submitted in another course (although it may be completely original with that student) without the knowledge of or prior agreement of the instructor involved.

While it is recognized that scholarly work often involves reference to the ideas, data and conclusions of other scholars, intellectual honesty requires that such references be explicitly and clearly noted.

Plagiarism occurs when direct quotations are taken from a source without specific acknowledgement, or when original ideas or data from the source are not acknowledged. Citing your sources in a bibliography is not enough, because a bibliography does not establish which parts of a student's work are taken from other sources. MLA (Modern Language Association) documentation or other recognized forms of citation must be used for this purpose. Advice on adequate documentation can be found at the following web sites:

<http://www.dianahacker.com/resdoc/>

<http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/01/>

### **DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH STATEMENT ON PRINCIPLES OF CONDUCT**

According to the University Calendar, (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/j.html>)

“The University of Calgary community has undertaken to be guided by the following statements of purpose and values: to promote free inquiry and debate, to act as a community of scholars, . . . , to respect, appreciate, and encourage diversity, [and] to display care and concern for community”. The Department of English, like the university as a whole, is committed to a “positive and productive learning and working environment.”

This environment is characterized by appreciation and encouragement of diversity and respect for the dignity of all persons: students, support staff, and faculty. The department will not tolerate unacceptable behaviour, such as threatening gestures, threatening or abusive verbal or written communication (including e-mails), or any conduct that “seriously disrupts the lawful education and related activities of students and/or university staff”. Any cases of such misconduct should be reported immediately to the department Head, who, depending on the nature and severity of the incident, may then take further appropriate action.