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### **ENG 660: War in Shakespeare's Plays/Syllabus and Outline**

War has occurred throughout recorded history, and war is a factor in many of Shakespeare's plays. In some it permeates the action; in others it is secondary but significant. In Hamlet, for example, the prince's familial conflicts are matched by Norway's warlike designs on Denmark: our focus will be on the latter, not on Hamlet's problems with his parents and girlfriend.

Like the work of other great artists who have long creative careers, Shakespeare's changed over time. We therefore usually take up his plays in the order he wrote them. For some of them, selected readings essential for this course will be announced as we proceed.

King John		Jan. 13 - 20
Henry VI, Parts 1, 2, 3		Jan. 22 - 29
Richard III	<i>selections</i>	Feb. 3
Henry IV, Parts 1, 2	<i>selections</i>	Feb. 5
Henry V		Feb. 12 -17
Troilus and Cressida	<i>selections</i>	Feb. 19 - 24
All's Well That Ends Well	<i>selections</i>	Feb. 26
Hamlet	<i>selections</i>	Mar. 3
MIDTERM EXAM		Mar. 5
Othello	<i>selections</i>	Mar. 17 - 20
King Lear	<i>selections</i>	Mar. 24
Macbeth		Mar. 26 - 31
Julius Caesar		Apr. 2 - 7
Antony and Cleopatra		Apr. 9 - 14
Coriolanus		Apr. 16 -21
Cymbeline	<i>selections</i>	Apr. 23

**TEXT:** The Complete Works of Shakespeare, ed. David Bevington, 6<sup>th</sup> ed., 2008.

The Appendices, pages A 84-87, offer useful genealogies and maps. Other scholarly editions may serve, but you'll have to be nimble to cross-refer. Our library has numerous editions.

The movies of Henry V by Olivier and by Branagh are required viewing on your own.

All the plays are available on video or DVD in the UGL.

The battle of Agincourt, a major feature of Henry V, is analyzed in the first third of The Face of Battle by John Keegan. Three copies are on One-Day Reserve in the UGL.

**ASSIGNMENTS:** Pop quizzes on readings; two short papers; a midterm on and a cumulative final exam which comprises 50% of your course grade.

"Once more into the breach, dear friends, once more" and fill the room with your student zeal!

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