

English 325 –Shakespeare's Tragedies and Tragi-Comedies
Dr. Ben B. Alexander
Egan 273; virtual office:balexander@francican.edu;
virtual class: FUS Academic Assistant* (Every student must be connected to the Academic Assistant for weekly receptions of class materials.)

Readings

January

16-18 intro. to course; Shakespeare and the breakdown of medieval Catholic order; Richard II

(Semester project: read Ackroyd biography and one play by Shakespeare or his contemporary--C. Marlowe, Ben Jonson, John Webster, et. al.)

23-25--finish Richard II; Henry IV, pt 1: Shakespeare, British Imperialism and the tragic-comic form of history: Falstaff

(Semester project: read Ackroyd biography, and one play read by Shakespeare or contemporary--C. Marlowe, Ben Jonson, John Webster et al)

30- Feb 1. -- **test** Richard II; Henry IV, pt 1

(Semester project: read Ackroyd biography, and one play read outside by Shakespeare or contemporary--C. Marlowe, Ben Jonson, John Webster et al)

February

6-8—Henry IV Pt 2, Acts I-III cont of the tragic-comedy of history; Falstaff

(Semester project: read Ackroyd biography and one play by Shakespeare or contemporary--C. Marlowe, Ben Jonson, John Webster et al)

13-15—Hamlet, Acts I-III

(semester project: read Ackroyd biography and one play by Shakespeare or contemporary--C. Marlowe, Ben Jonson, John Webster et al)

20-22—**test**, Hamlet, Acts IV-V

(semester project: read Ackroyd biography and one play by Shakespeare or contemporary--C. Marlowe, Ben Jonson, John Webster et)

27- March 1—tragic-comedy and anti-Semitism, Merchant of Venice, Acts I-III

(semester project: read Ackroyd biography and one play by Shakespeare or contemporary--C. Marlowe, Ben Jonson, John Webster et al)

March

6-8—**test**, Merchant of Venice, Acts, IV-V

(semester project: read Ackroyd biography and one play by Shakespeare or contemporary--C. Marlowe, Ben Jonson, John Webster et al)

3/20-22—conclusion, Merchant of Venice; Othello, Islam, race and irrepressible tragedy, Acts I-II

(semester project: read Ackroyd biography and one play by Shakespeare or contemporary--C. Marlowe, Ben Jonson, John Webster et al)

3/27-29—**test**, Othello-III-V

(semester project: read Ackroyd biography and one play by Shakespeare or contemporary--C. Marlowe, Ben Jonson, John Webster et al)

April

3-5— the tragi-comedy of adolescent love; Romeo and Juliet, Acts I-III

(semester project: read Ackroyd biography and one play by Shakespeare or contemporary--C. Marlowe, Ben Jonson, John Webster et al)

10-12—Romeo and Juliet, Acts IV-V

(semester project: read Ackroyd biography and one play by Shakespeare or contemporary--C. Marlowe, Ben Jonson, John Webster et al)

17-19—**test**; Julius Caesar, Acts I-III

(semester project: read Ackroyd biography and one play by Shakespeare or contemporary--C. Marlowe, Ben Jonson, John Webster et al)

24-26—Julius Caesar, Acts III-V summary via video, Antony and Cleopatra, Acts I-III

(semester project: read Ackroyd biography and one play by Shakespeare or contemporary--C. Marlowe, Ben Jonson, John Webster et al)

May 1—Antony and Cleopatra, Acts IV-V.

(semester project: read Ackroyd biography and one play by Shakespeare or contemporary--C. Marlowe, Ben Jonson, John Webster et al)