ENG296Y0Y Shakespeare

What's so great about Shakespeare? This question will be the starting point for a course in which you will have the opportunity to learn everything you ever wanted to know, and to ask every question you ever wanted to ask, about Shakespeare—as well as to learn things and ask questions that you had never thought of before. We will read four or five plays—and attend two or three live performances of plays—and you will be introduced to a variety of techniques for describing, with clarity and precision and maybe even some personal style, the artistic qualities and effects of these works and the nature and significance of your responses to them.

Tentative course outline

Reading

Five or six plays, to be determined partly by what's playing at the theatres we visit. Texts are likely to include at least two of the following: *Richard II, A Midsummer Night's Dream, Othello, Macbeth, All's Well that Ends Well, The Winter's Tale.* We will also read some of the sonnets.

Coursework

While the exact details are still to be worked out, the marking scheme will look something like this: two short reading responses (30% total), two short performance responses (20% total), one essay (30%), class participation (20%).