

The



Growl

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Why Shakespeare?

Cynthia S. Becerra, Professor of English



"Why Shakespeare?" whined the student. Occasionally, I feel like the insensitive parent who regards her child with genetic wonder not only because of the question but also for her stunned reply, "Because I said so." Even now, after having heard the question thousands of times in my fifteen years at Humphreys College, I still find myself **almost** speechless when asked it one more time. Therefore, given this timely opportunity--since I will be teaching the Great Bard once again this Spring Quarter--, I have decided to answer you, my students, in prose.

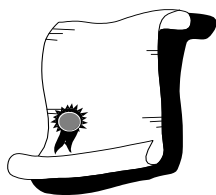
Although critics contend that William Shakespeare, the first son born to Mary and John Shakespeare in April 1564 in Stratford-upon-Avon, England, is considered the world's most celebrated dramatist, there are many other reasons to study Shakespeare, some of which may be appealing to even the most reticent student of literature. Having written 38 plays, including comedies, tragedies, histories, and romances, Shakespeare commanded the London stage and became an important figure during the reigns of first Queen Elizabeth and then King James I, for whom he renamed his English theatrical company, the King's Men. Before Shakespeare's death in 1616, he had become the most popular and successful playwright and poet of his time.

But now over four hundred years later, what makes him still so popular? After all, his plays are often transformed into triumphant films, such as the latest version of *Romeo and Juliet* starring Leonardo DiCaprio or Mel Gibson's charismatic portrayal of Hamlet a few years ago. Shakespeare's, or excuse me, Leo's Romeo falls in love with the wrong girl. Her family thinks he is not good enough for her and forbids the union as does her family and the Prince. Next, Mel's Hamlet discovers that his beloved father, King Hamlet, was killed by his uncle, his own father's brother. Upon this revelation, Hamlet considers whether to act on this information--gleaned from the ghost of his dead father--or to delay until he is forced to act. Inevitably, both plays capture the universal element of the human dilemma-- that is, what William Faulkner, the great American writer, called "the human heart in conflict with itself."

However, many of my students have found that Shakespeare's plots are as entertaining as those in contemporary films. For example, if you want to see murders, sword fights, sexual exploits, the battle of the sexes, devious plots to overthrow political leaders, bloody battles over power and money, women marrying their husbands' murderers, brothers killing brothers or even their best friends, you've come to the right place: Shakespeare has it all.

And if that doesn't interest you, then try romance or comedy. (No, Julia Roberts has never done Shakespeare.) But Meryl Streep, Denzel Washington, Diana Rigg, Kate Winslet, and even Robin Williams--just to name a few--have all done Shakespeare. They have delighted their audiences with the transformative power of love, whether on a deserted island as in Shakespeare's *The Tempest* or in a magical wood as in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*.

So, when you are registering for classes next quarter, sign up for LIT204, Shakespeare, on Tuesday nights for an enriching, entertaining--sometimes literary-- experience. This course satisfies an upper-division humanities elective.



Doth Thou Dare To Ask, What is WASC?

Dr. Humphreys, President

WASC is an acronym for the Western Association of Schools and Colleges. It is an association which accredits all of the schools, community and junior colleges, and colleges and universities in the State of California as well as in Hawaii and the Pacific Trust Territories.

WASC is made up of three commissions, each responsible for the accreditation of a specific sector of education in the Western Region. The Schools Commission accredits all of the primary and secondary schools, i.e., elementary, junior high or middle schools, and high schools in the region, both public and private. All together there are more than 3,000 such institutions in the Western Region. The Community and Junior College Commission accredits all of the public and private Community and Junior Colleges – there are more than 150 such institutions in the Region.

Humphreys College is accredited by the Accrediting Commission for Senior Colleges and Universities. This Commission accredits all of the public and private four-year colleges and universities in the Region. There are approximately 130 institutions in the region accredited by the Senior Commission.

Each commission consists of representatives of the institutions accredited, including administrators, staff members, trustees, and faculty, as well as members representing the public at large. The Senior commission consists of 19 members, the Community and Junior College Commission has 16 members, and the Schools Commission numbers 24.

On the national level, the Western Association of Schools and Colleges is what is known as a regional association. There are six regional associations all together, covering the entire United States, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, the trust territories of Guam, American Samoa, Federated States of Micronesia, Republic of Palau, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and other areas of the Pacific Basin.

While WASC and the other regional accrediting associations are private, non-governmental agencies, they are governed by, and must be approved by, the U.S. Department of Education. It is this approval that allows institutions thus accredited to participate in federal financial aid and other funding programs. So WASC, while it is an accrediting association, is itself accredited by the U.S. Department of Education and must abide by laws and regulations promulgated by that federal agency.

Now...when by chance one should ask, "What is WASC?" you can answer quick and fast.



The 5th Of May Is Not That Far Away

Student Council is sponsoring an up-coming event for *Cinco de Mayo*. It will be held on Tuesday, May 5, in the quad area of the East Campus. If you have any comments, ideas, or issues regarding student activities, please feel free to speak with a student council member. And remember, it's not too late to become a part of your student government.



Here's A Good Idea – Say, "Thank You"

Pamela Knapp, Director of Career Services

How important is it to write a "thank you" note after a job interview? According to Robert Half in his book *How to Get a Better Job in This Crazy World* (1990), a thank you note is a simple matter of etiquette and one of the key factors to landing a job. Believe it or not, so many people never even consider taking 15 minutes after the interview to say thank you to the potential employer by sending a thank you letter. Sending a note of thanks shows the employer that you are truly interested in the position and that you are *conscientious* - a trait which is highly desirable to employers.

The question of whether to type or hand write the thank you is often a debated topic. In today's world, where computers are so prevalent, it seems to some that a computer-generated thank you letter is too impersonal. On the other hand, some people in the field of career services believe that a hand-written note is not professional. My rule of advice is pretty basic - JUST DO IT! In other words, you can either type or hand write your note of thanks, but the important thing is that it be sent in a timely manner, preferably the same day of the interview.

I encourage people to write the thank you on personalized letterhead stationery rather than on a flowery, *cutesy* note card. The reason is two-fold: One, your name, address, and phone number is on the top of your stationery so the employer has it readily available if he/she would like to contact you; and, Two, you can hand write the letter on this stationery, giving a personalized touch, yet not *too* personalized. I recommend hand-written notes of thanks because it shows the employer you gave some thought to your note and that it was not simply a "form letter" printed off your computer.

Remember, also, if you are interviewed by more than one person, you need to send a thank you to *each* person. It is a good idea to make sure you ask for a business card from each person you meet with so you are sure to get the right spelling of his/her name and the correct title.

If you need examples of thank you notes, please stop by the Career Services office - the hours are Monday, Wednesday, Friday 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.



The Tutorial Center Is Central To Your Success

The news regarding court reporting students in the Center continues to be good: (notice that correct use of the colon, reporters) Kim Paradiso recently completed the fifth and final test for the English review portion of the qualification to take the state test. The very next day (it would have been sooner if weather had permitted!) Jeff Hook came in and did the same thing. They both scored 91.5% on a very exacting 200-question final test. Heartiest congratulations to both students who are continuing their tradition of fierce but friendly rivalry!

The Center continues to get busier with 200+ hours logged of tutoring in English and accounting alone so far this quarter. Those of you who are availing themselves of our services need to know that we now have a new evaluation form (available from Debi or Dr. D) for you to record your experience (anonymously if you prefer) of the Center.

Finally, a fond farewell to one of our math tutors, Kim Fry, who is taking a well-deserved rest now that she has a full load of courses, a full-time job and children to raise! We appreciate your efforts, Kim, and we wish you well.



Are You Ready For The Volleyball Game?

Students Wanted: The Humphreys College Annual Volleyball Game will be Thursday, April 9, 1998. This event will be held in conjunction with Hot Dog Day. So grab a hot dog and come out to play. Students, this is our chance to retaliate for past anguish reaped upon us by the faculty, staff, and administration!



If You Want To Take Off For Graduation, You've Got To Register For Classes

Lance Hall, Registrar

Spring Quarter schedules are now available in the Registrar's Office, in Admissions, in Financial Aid – just about anywhere you look. Registration opens Thursday, March 5. Business majors should be aware that all four classes offered are upper division and are usually offered only once a year - now. They are offered on different nights, so now is the time to fulfill some of your B.S. requirements.

Graduation note - Petition now so that the Registrar's Office can verify the classes you need to complete your program. Once you petition, beginning in April, you will receive correspondence regarding important dates, times, cap and gown, etc.



The Growl Revisited

Debora Queen, Student Council President

Some students and faculty members have asked about the history of *The Growl*. So here it is! Humphreys College Student Council members held an election in 1991 to pick the school mascot. The Husky won the election and thus *The Growl* was born. The newspaper was printed once a quarter and contained articles similar to those in the current editions of *The Growl*. The paper remained in production until the spring of 1992; then it suddenly stopped. When the current Student Council, with the help of Mr. Bonds, began looking into distributing a newspaper for the students to obtain information about upcoming events and to have a place for some of them to publish their work, we uncovered the history of *The Growl*. Therefore, when it came time to publish our first current edition of a student newspaper, we respected the decision of the 1991 student body and went with *The Growl*. Our current paper does vary a little from the past, as we currently publish an issue every month instead of quarterly. For those of you who are long-time Humphreys College faithfuls, you may also remember a pre-1991 Eagle mascot.

Anyone interested in having an article, paper, essay, or poem published in a future edition of *The Growl*, please contact Mr. Bonds or Debora Queen, student council president.

Want Something To Do?

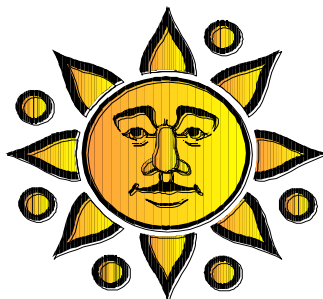
Try some of these suggestions from Ms. Becerra's Written Communications class



- If you like coffee, a fun, social place to hang out is Starbucks. Also, I hear Stockton Rocks is a blast on Friday and Saturday nights. -- Anonymous
- Someone living in Stockton with small children may enjoy Discovery Zone, Naughty Nicks, or Chucky Cheese. You might also enjoy Pixie Woods or an afternoon at Victory Park – there are several nice museums. -- Lisa W.



- In the Stockton area there are a lot of good restaurants. UOP athletics events are fun to attend. Check out the Manteca Waterslides this summer. Oops, I forgot we're talking about Stockton. During the summer, I suggest you learn how to play cards or dominoes, something that can be done inside, under the cool atmosphere of air conditioning. There are excellent areas for picnics, provided you have a nice shady tree to eat under. – DC
- A group of people can get together and rent the ice-rink after hours and play broom ball. Broom ball is a game like hockey, only it is played in tennis shoes. – Anonymous
- One thing to do is participate in sports activities, like those at In Shape City. Do things to relax around the house – Christopher Phillips
- A fun thing to do in Stockton is going to the Asparagus Festival. Every year in April, the townspeople get together and enjoy the food, drinks and entertainment. – Anonymous
- My favorite place to hang out with friends is Sky's Bar & Grill in Lodi on Turner Road, west of Hwy. 99. They have pool tables, darts...and the friendliest bartenders around! -- Anonymous
- A very fun thing to do in Stockton is to go to the card rooms to play poker. There are several in town. One of them is next to Humphreys College [West Campus]. – M.G.
- Arrange of group of friends, decide whose car to use, make sure everyone has I.D., and head out of town for some real action. – Mike O'Bryan
- I like to go to Sho Mi Japanese restaurant for lunch. The food is good and prices are reasonable. It's in the shopping center on Ben Holt & Pacific Ave. (near Starbucks) – Marilyn Flippin



New Requirements For Satisfactory Progress

Dr. Humphreys, President

Recent requirements by the U.S. Department of Education in the administration of financial aid regulations make it necessary for the college to implement new policies regarding the definition of satisfactory progress. In addition to the grade-point average requirement (see Catalog page 29), effective immediately, there will be a unit completion requirement. The satisfactory progress policy is modified to include the provision that:

The student makes satisfactory progress toward completion of his/her degree or certificate. The following shows the maximum number of units allowed for completion of the various degrees and certificate programs and the required unit completion rates:

	Minimum number of units that must be completed by a full-time student to maintain satisfactory progress	Maximum units allowed to complete
<i>Degree</i>		
B.S.	30 per year*	270 units
A.A./A.S.	30 per year	135 units
<i>Certificate</i>		
12 quarters	30 per year	270 units
8 quarters	30 per year	180 units
4 quarters	10 per quarter	90 units
3 quarters	10 per quarter	67 units
2 quarters	10 per quarter	45 units
* A year is defined as any three-quarter period out of four consecutive quarters.		

For students enrolled less than full-time, proportional adjustments will be made. The maximum time frame indicates the maximum number of units for which a student will be eligible to receive financial aid. Transfers from other institutions will have their transcripts evaluated to determine the remaining number of units of financial aid eligibility at Humphreys College.

Classes which are graded as IP will be considered as units completed for the purpose of meeting the completion rate requirement as long as the qualitative progress is "C" or above in keeping with the IP policy on page 31 of the Catalog.

For more information regarding this policy, see the Financial Aid office.