Comic Literature Course Layout

- **Introduction**
  - Humor is a pleasure.
  - Humor is a necessity.
  - Humor is a human activity.
  - The classical view of comedy

- **Wit**
  - Wilde's *The Importance of Being Earnest*
  - Shakespeare's *Much Ado About Nothing*

- **Whimsy**
  - Wodehouse's *Right Ho, Jeeves*
  - James Thurber selections
  - Jerome's *Three Men in a Boat*

- **Satire** (If time)
  - Categories of satire (Horatian and Juvenalian)

- **Three Projects**
  - Original Wildean dialogue
  - *Much Ado About Nothing* group scene adaptation and presentation
  - Original humor composition with small group review/critique and potential class presentation

(Other shorter readings enjoyed throughout the semester):
"The Night the Bed Fell" (Thurber)
"The Night the Ghost Got In" (Thurber)
"The Dog That Bit People" (Thurber)
"If Grant Had Been Drinking at Appomattox" (Thurber)
"Ainmosni" (Roger Angell)
"Advice to Youth" (Twain)
Various short stories by P.G. Wodehouse
Tremendous Trifles -- excerpts (Chesterton)
Three Men in a Boat -- excerpts (Jerome)