



Shakespeare

Extra Evaluation Course

Description

Shakespeare – the man who captured all it is to be human! You’ve got a front-row ticket to the theatre, and the curtain is about to rise on some of the most gloriously gripping stories ever to drip from the Bard’s quill. Split your sides laughing at the endless duel of wits between Beatrice and Benedick. Quiver with suspense as the Duke of Gloucester, twisted in body and soul, weaves an intricate web of murders with the crown of England at the centre. Soar on the wings of the wind with the castaway wizard Prospero, as he magically conjures a storm to trap his enemies – but is it to obtain revenge or forgiveness? Best of all, interrogate these stories on a deeper level through Socratic discussion, tangling with the intricate truths and ethics at the heart of these incredible plays. With seven plays in all, this course spans all three Shakespearean genres – comedy, tragedy, and history – and dedicates two weeks to each play. Students are introduced to Shakespeare’s writing in an inviting way designed to build confidence, enjoyment, and fluency. Shakespeare meant for his plays to delight both the mind and heart, so “come away, come away,” and feast them both.

Cost: \$300

Course Reading List

- *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*
- *Henry V*
- *Romeo and Juliet*
- *Much Ado About Nothing*
- *Richard III*
- *The Tempest*
- *Hamlet*

Primary Learning Objectives

- Students will engage in an in-depth study of a selection of the comedies, histories, and tragedies of Shakespeare, one of the seminal authors of the English literary tradition. Students will learn to engage the texts deeply, comprehend their subtlety of expression, and wrestle with their important moral themes.
- To guide the student to better understand the timeless human condition as it is reflected in Shakespeare's characters, and to use this as a jumping off point for discussion of ethics and ideas that apply both to the characters' and to our own lives.
- To help the student develop confidence and skill in public speaking/performance by giving opportunity to participate in reader's theatre sessions.
- To bolster the student in their ability and confidence to read complex language, and to give them the initiative and know-how to find good tools and strategies for increasing their fluency.

Method of Evaluation Student Performance

Assignments	Weight
Week 2: Essay (<i>A Midsummer Night's Dream</i>)	17%
Week 6: Essay (<i>Romeo and Juliet</i>)	17%
Week 8: Oral Midterm Exam	12%
Week 12: Essay (<i>Hamlet</i>)	17%
Week 14: Oral Final Exam	18%
Class Participation	19%

Instructions for essays: Essays should respond substantively to the question posed. They should reflect the student's own thought and not just repeat what is found in the readings. Essays should be no less than 1000 words. The student will be graded on the quality of their thought as well as the clarity of their presentation.

Instructions for oral exams: Oral exams will test both the student's familiarity with the broader course material as well as their critical reasoning ability. In these exams, the tutor will engage the student with a number of questions, to which the student must thoughtfully respond. Oral exams are 20-30 minutes long and will take place in the classroom at a time determined by the student and his/her tutor.