



E 321: Shakespeare: Selected Plays

Course Format: Online, Self-Paced

Course Instructor: Michael Roberts, M.A. Contact using the Inbox tool in Canvas.

Course Credits: 3

Prerequisites: Nine semester hours of coursework in English or rhetoric and writing.

How This Course Works

This course is online and is self-paced. Students have five months from their date of enrollment to complete the course. All coursework and proctored exams are submitted or taken online.

While this course is self-paced in terms of when you complete the work and submit assignments, periodic assessments are critical to ensuring that students receive adequate support and are able to achieve the intended learning outcomes. Thus, this course is organized into modules that must be completed in order. Students will only be able to move forward once they have received a grade on all assessments within a given module.

Review the course outline and assignment descriptions carefully. Computer-graded assignments are scored immediately. You can expect to receive feedback on instructor-graded assignments or exams within three business days following submission. This does not include weekends or holidays. Requests for expedited grading are not accommodated, so please plan accordingly. During certain times (end of semester, spring break, etc.), instructors may experience higher-than-usual demands on their time and may need additional time for evaluation. Students should reach out to University Extension at uex@austin.utexas.edu with any concerns regarding grading turnaround.

University Extension strongly advises students to be aware of when they may need a course grade to be recorded on their transcript. It can take up to two weeks after the final exam is complete for a grade to be officially recorded with the Office of the Registrar.

Course Overview

In this course, students are introduced to a selection of Shakespeare's sonnets and plays. The goal is to assist students in heightening their perception of: Shakespeare as a poet and dramatist; his use of language; recurring patterns and themes of Shakespeare's works centering around family, love, sexual, social, and political relationships; literary genres and kinds (sonnets, drama, comedy, tragedy, domestic tragedy, romantic tragedy, romance the history play, and pastoralism); and various critical approaches to literary works.

Required Materials

Bevington, David, ed. *The Complete Works of Shakespeare*, 4th ed. Longman Publishing Group, 1997.
Or Bevington, David, ed. *The Complete Works of Shakespeare*, 4th ed. Harper Collins, 1992.

Shakespeare: Selected Plays - Collection of Selected Readings. Available as digital course pack from XanEdu, Inc.

Course Organization

This course is divided into three learning modules containing a total of ten lessons. All lessons, except the first on Shakespeare's sonnets, concentrate on one play. The chronology of the lessons reflects the order of their creation, as generally accepted by Shakespearean scholars. Each lesson contains assigned and optional reading(s), an overview and analytical commentary from the instructor, practice exercises, and an assignment to be completed and submitted for grading. You must receive a grade on all assignments in a module before the next module will open.

Computer-Graded Assignments

Every other lesson will conclude with a multiple choice quiz. The questions test your command of the assigned text by concentrating on details from plot, characterization, and language. These quizzes will evaluate your understanding and knowledge of the current play, and will also help you prepare for the final exam.

Instructor-Graded Assignments

These essays ask you to develop in several paragraphs an argument based on an approach to a significant aspect of the play(s) from a topic you will be given. You are expected to present a critical analysis of the given topic.

Exams

This course requires you to complete a final exam. It will consist of questions like the ones in your assignments. The exam is divided into three parts: multiple choice "Who said this"(10%); multiple choice "Identification" (10%); and essays (80%). You will have some choice in each section of what you answer. The Multiple Choice sections asks you to answer ten of twelve questions, each worth 2 points, and the Essay section asks you to answer two of three essay prompts, each worth 40 points.

You must pass the final exam to pass the course.

Course Outline

Module	Topics	Assessments
1	Lesson 1: Shakespeare's Sonnets	▪ Computer-Graded Assignment 1
	Lesson 2: <i>A Midsummer Night's Dream</i>	▪ Instructor-Graded Assignment 2
	Lesson 3: <i>Richard II</i>	▪ Computer-Graded Assignment 3
2	Lesson 4: <i>Henry IV, Part 1</i>	▪ Instructor-Graded Assignment 4
	Lesson 5: <i>Henry V</i>	▪ Computer-Graded Assignment 5
	Lesson 6: <i>Twelfth Night</i>	▪ Instructor-Graded Assignment 6
3	Lesson 7: <i>Othello</i>	▪ Computer-Graded Assignment 7
	Lesson 8: <i>King Lear</i>	▪ Instructor-Graded Assignment 8
	Lesson 9: <i>Antony and Cleopatra</i>	▪ Computer-Graded Assignment 9
	Lesson 10: <i>The Winter's Tale</i>	▪ Instructor-Graded Assignment 10
FINAL EXAM		

Grade Calculation

Your final grade for the course will be calculated as follows:

5 Instructor-Graded Assignments	25%
5 Computer-Graded Assignments	25%
Final Exam	50%

You must pass the final exam to pass the course. You must also earn an overall passing grade:

A	100-93%	B+	89-87%	C+	79-77%	D+	69-67%	F	59-0%
A-	92-90%	B	86-83%	C	76-73%	D	66-63%		
		B-	82-80%	C-	72-70%	D-	62-60%		

Getting Help

- Technical Support: uextechsupport@austin.utexas.edu
- For content questions or questions about assignment and grades, use the Inbox tool within Canvas to contact the course instructor.
- For other questions (registration, transcripts, etc.), contact University Extension.

University Extension Policies

Full University Extension policies for self-paced courses may be found on the University Extension website.

Scholastic Dishonesty

Students in this course are expected to work independently, without direct supervision, and to conduct themselves responsibly in accordance with that freedom. To obtain the greatest benefit from their course work, and for the sake of everyone enrolled in our courses, students must demonstrate the willingness to exercise self-discipline, personal responsibility, and scholastic integrity.

We expect the course work and exams that you submit for course credit to be yours and yours alone. Plagiarism and other forms of scholastic dishonesty are serious academic violations that will not be tolerated. The penalties for scholastic dishonesty include the possibility of failure in the course. Scholastic dishonesty in examinations will automatically result in a grade of *F* on the exam and an *F* in the course.

University Extension Contact Information

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