

Course Title	Shakespeare				
Course Code	LIT205				
Course Type	Compulsory				
Level	Bachelor (1st Cycle)				
Year / Semester	2nd Year / 3rd Semester				
Teacher's Name	TBA				
ECTS	6	Lectures / week	Up to 6 teleconferences	Laboratories / week	N/A
Course Purpose and Objectives	This course offers a survey of a selection of Shakespeare's plays across the four genres of tragedy, comedy, history and romance. Students will gain an insight into the historical, aesthetic and theatrical significance of the plays.				
Learning Outcomes	<p>Upon successful completion of this course students should be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explicate the principal characters, themes and plots • Analyze short passages of Shakespearean verse drama in detail, paying attention to both prosodic and generic elements • Evaluate the role played by Shakespeare's cultural context in the formation and meaning of the plays • Differentiate between reading plays as literature and as performance • Describe the generic requirements of tragedy, comedy, history and romance 				
Prerequisites	LIT100 or consent of instructor		Co-requisites	None	
Course Content	<p>The course will begin with an introduction to the particularities of the Shakespearean stage, including the stagecraft of the time. This will then broaden into a discussion of the artistic, religious, political and economic currents which allowed the (re-)emergence of theatre as an art form in late 16th century England. Students will be introduced to significant influences on Shakespeare, including Senecan tragedy, Plutarch's biographies, and Holinshed's histories.</p> <p>The plays will principally be examined as works of art with regards to the elements of tragedy, language (e.g. use of metaphors, puns etc.) and recurrent themes (e.g. theatrum mundi, illusion/disillusion). They will also be placed in their generic context, allowing students to see how the playwright handles specific themes or tropes differently in differing genres.</p> <p>Students will learn how to parse Elizabethan English and how to relate prosody to meaning in close readings of specific passages. They will learn how to analyse iambic pentameter (and blank verse more widely), and how to interpret deviations from regular metre.</p>				

	Each play will also be interpreted in relation to the wider world in which it intervenes, with students expected to demonstrate familiarity with (among other things): the growth of a Protestant mercantile order and the impact that this had on traditional understandings of the world; the decaying state apparatus under the aging and heirless Elizabeth; the growth of English power through colonialism. Emphasis will be given to feminist, postcolonial, queer and ecocritical readings of these texts.				
Teaching Methodology	E-Learning				
Bibliography	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arden editions of each of the four Shakespeare plays to be discussed, e.g. William Shakespeare. <i>Hamlet</i>. Ann Thompson and Neil Taylor, eds. 3rd edition. London: Arden, 2006. • Maurice Hindle. <i>Shakespeare on Film</i>. 2nd edition. New York: Red Globe Press, 2015. • Jeremy Lopez. <i>The Arden Introduction to Reading Shakespeare: Close Reading and Analysis</i>. London: Arden, 2018. • Sean McEvoy. <i>Shakespeare: The Basics</i>. London: Routledge, 2012. 				
Assessment	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Final Examination</td> <td>50%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Assignments/On-going Evaluation</td> <td>50%</td> </tr> </table>	Final Examination	50%	Assignments/On-going Evaluation	50%
Final Examination	50%				
Assignments/On-going Evaluation	50%				
Language	English				