**Course Title:** Introduction to Shakespeare in Text and Performance  
**Course Code:** LONS DTSH 280  
**Subject:** Drama, Theatre, Literature  
**Credits:** 4  
**Contact Hours:** 50  
**Semester/Term:**  
- [x] Semester  
- [ ] J-Term  
- [ ] Summer

**Course Description:** This course explores six Shakespeare plays in relation to their original historical moment and some of the more recent cultural contexts in which they have been analyzed and performed. In addition to considering the narratives, themes, characters, and rich language of the texts and thinking about the questions that they raise, the course looks at the plays as theatre, and examines key issues such as authenticity, casting, cultural authority, ownership, and high popular culture which impact on the production and reception of Shakespeare today.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Requirements</th>
<th>Required Text</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(Penguin Shakespeare Text)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Midsummer Night’s Dream. <strong>ISBN:</strong> 0553213008; <strong>Cost:</strong> To Be Determined.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Twelfth Night. <strong>ISBN:</strong> 0486292908; <strong>Cost:</strong> To Be Determined.</td>
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<td>Othello. <strong>ISBN:</strong> 1559947306; <strong>Cost:</strong> To Be Determined.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Hamlet. <strong>ISBN:</strong> 0812036387; <strong>Cost:</strong> To Be Determined.</td>
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<td>King Lear. <strong>ISBN:</strong> 0743484959; <strong>Cost:</strong> To Be Determined.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>The Tempest. <strong>ISBN:</strong> 0764120875; <strong>Cost:</strong> To Be Determined.</td>
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**Additional Readings and Resources**

Articles and powerpoint lecture slides are available from the instructor on the course Canvas site through Arcadia University.


**Assignments**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Requirements</th>
<th>Percentages</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Presentation</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Essay 1: Performance Analysis – 1,000 – 1,500 words</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Annotated Bibliography</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Presentation &amp; Reflective research log</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Essay 2: 2,000 words</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100%</td>
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**Learning Outcomes and/or Expected Student Competencies and Assessment Measures:**

On completion of the course, students should be able to:

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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Discuss the development of Shakespeare’s art will be seen in relation to his historical and cultural context.</td>
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<td>2. Analyze the texts as dynamic theatrical entities.</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Apply the knowledge gained to any of Shakespeare’s plays.</td>
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<td>4. Assess the relevance of the texts to the modern world.</td>
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## Course Outline:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Session</th>
<th>Topic</th>
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</table>
| Session 1| Shakespeare and us: why do we keep doing Shakespeare?  
The Comedy of Errors [1]  
the strange geographies of Ephesus; genre; the sea |
| Session 2| The Comedy of Errors [2]  
Twins; marriage and families; masters and servants |
| Session 3| Othello [1]  
Race; casting Othello; masculinity |
| Session 4| Othello [2]  
Villainy and honesty; femininity and female relationships |
| Session 5| Macbeth [1]  
Evil and goodness; ambition and regret; masculine and feminine values |
| Session 6| Macbeth [2]  
The Jacobean context; historical resonances; performing ghosts and witches |
| Session 7| Shakespeare and his theatres  
Positioning Shakespeare’s Globe in the current cultural landscape |
| Session 8| Richard II [1]  
Shakespeare’s history; England and nation; language and identity; power and display |
| Session 9| Richard II [2]  
Reasserting the female narratives; women playing the king |
| Session 10| The Tempest [1]  
magic and power; revenge and forgiveness; colonial discourses |
| Session 11| Twelfth Night [1]  
Festive comedy v dark comedy; class and gender; love and madness |
| Session 12| Twelfth Night [2]  
Authenticity and casting |
| Session 13| Exam  
Final essay submission |

## Other Policies:

**Expectations**

Professional behavior is expected of all students. This includes preparation for classes, on-time attendance at classes, attendance at all group sessions and appropriate participation in the form of attentiveness and contributions to the course. Respect for the academic process is the major guiding principle for professional behavior and extends to all communications, including e-mail.
## Attendance/Participation
Prompt attendance, full preparation, and active participation in class discussions are expected from every student in every class session.

## Course Policies
For email communications, students must use their Arcadia University email account. Students are responsible for any information provided by e-mail or through Intranet postings.

## Plagiarism
Representation of another’s work or ideas as one’s own in academic submissions is plagiarism, and is cause for disciplinary action. *Cheating* is actual or attempted use of resources not authorized by the instructor(s) for academic submissions. Students caught cheating in this course will receive a failing grade. *Fabrication* is the falsification or creation of data, research or resources to support academic submissions, and cause for disciplinary action.

## Late or Missed Assignments
Will not be accepted for grading.

## Students with Disabilities
Persons with documented disabilities requiring accommodations to meet the expectations of this course should disclose this information while enrolling into the program, and before leaving the United States so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

## Title IX Statement
Arcadia University is committed to assuring a safe and productive educational environment for all students. In order to meet this commitment and to comply with Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 and guidance from the Office for Civil Rights, the University requires faculty members to report incidents of sexual violence shared by students to the University’s Title IX Coordinator. The only exceptions a faculty member's reporting obligation are when incidents of sexual violence are communicated by a student during a classroom discussion, in a writing assignment for a class, or as part of a University-approved research project.

Information regarding the reporting of sexual violence and the resources that are available to victims of sexual violence is set forth at [https://www.arcadia.edu/university/policies-guidelines/title-ix](https://www.arcadia.edu/university/policies-guidelines/title-ix).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prerequisites:</th>
<th>None.</th>
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