

**Course Title: Shakespeare and English Teaching course description**  
Summer, 2015

**Introduction:**

This goals of this course all involve giving working teachers an opportunity to investigate the methods and difficulties of using Shakespeare's works—and, by extension, the works of other major authors—in their English language courses. Specifically, these goals include:

- familiarizing teachers with relevant literary and historical background to Shakespeare's works
- familiarizing teachers with resources such as dictionaries, reference works, films and videos, and web sites for future reference
- gaining detailed knowledge of several of Shakespeare's works that would be of especially interest to maturing students
- developing the reading and writing skills necessary to classroom flexibility and confidence in dealing with challenging texts
- identifying and overcoming textual difficulties
- practicing incorporating some of Shakespeare's works into existing curricula
- developing classroom activities based on Shakespeare's works

**Grading and assignments:**

Students will be expected to read a selection of Shakespeare's sonnets and three of his plays. Attendance is mandatory. Grades will be based on four writing assignments, plus in-class activities:

- a creative work based on a model from one of Shakespeare's works covered in class
- explanations of two short passages from Shakespeare and how they might be used
- a class plan that incorporates the two short passages from Shakespeare's works into a detailed class plan