

**Course Title:** Shakespeare and English Language Teaching, Summer 2018

**Course Code:** 951922001

**Time:** 9:00 a.m.-12:10 p.m., Mondays and Wednesdays

**Place:** Research Building, Room 250305

**Instructor:** Tom Sellari

### **Course Description:**

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

### **Requirements:**

Students will be expected to read a selection of Shakespeare's sonnets and excerpts from seven of his plays (specified below). Attendance is mandatory. Grades will be based on the following three writing assignments, which can be completed in any order but must be handed in on the dates specified in the final syllabus (to be handed out in the first class meeting):

- a creative work based on a model from one of Shakespeare's works covered in class
- a four- to five-page critical paper on linguistic or literary aspects of one of Shakespeare's works covered in class
- a class plan that incorporates part of one of Shakespeare's works into a language curriculum

### **Materials/Textbooks:**

Materials will be made available for students by the instructor.

Alternatively, students may choose to use some of the following editions of Shakespeare's works:  
Royal Shakespeare Company, *William Shakespeare: Complete Works*

*The Norton Shakespeare*

Arden, Oxford, or New Cambridge editions of individual plays

**Tentative Schedule:**

7/4: introduction to course; introduction to Shakespeare; Shakespeare's sonnets; reference materials

7/9-7/11: *A Midsummer Night's Dream*; comedy vs. tragedy; verse vs. prose; reading wholes

7/16-7/18: *Othello*; reading dialogue; pair work; writing dialogue; themes of race and prejudice

7/23-7/25: *Twelfth Night*; analyzing Shakespeare's language; grammar and relations of ideas

7/30-8/1: *Hamlet*; rhetorical tropes and schemes; crafting and developing longer pieces

8/6-8/8: *The Merchant of Venice*; public speaking; argumentation and refutation; logic

8/13-8/15: *Henry IV, Part One*; history plays; definitions of history; reading motivations

8/20-8/22: *Macbeth*; review